

C. 4527

Camden, Hm.

WILLIAM STANWELL,
ROCHDALE.

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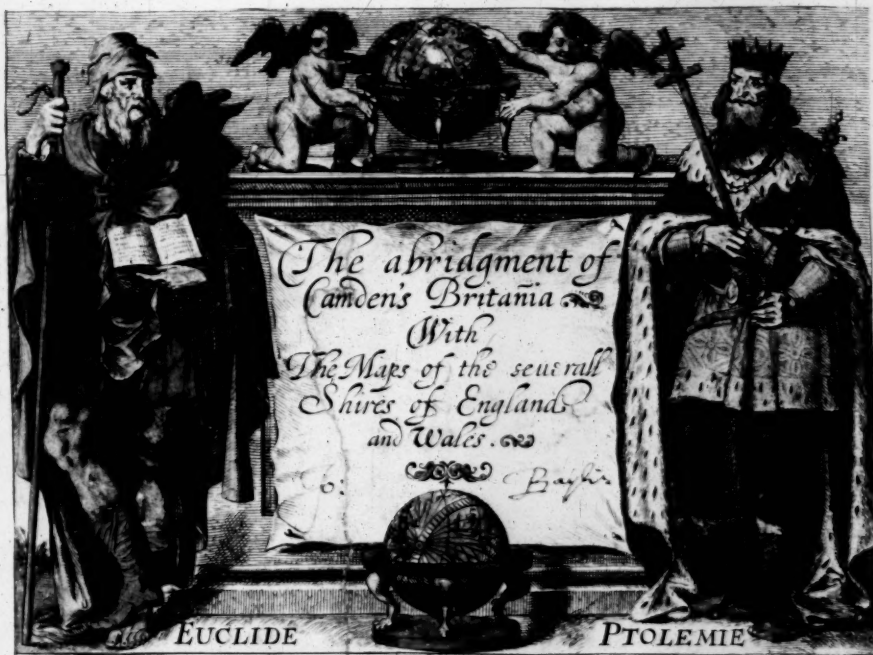
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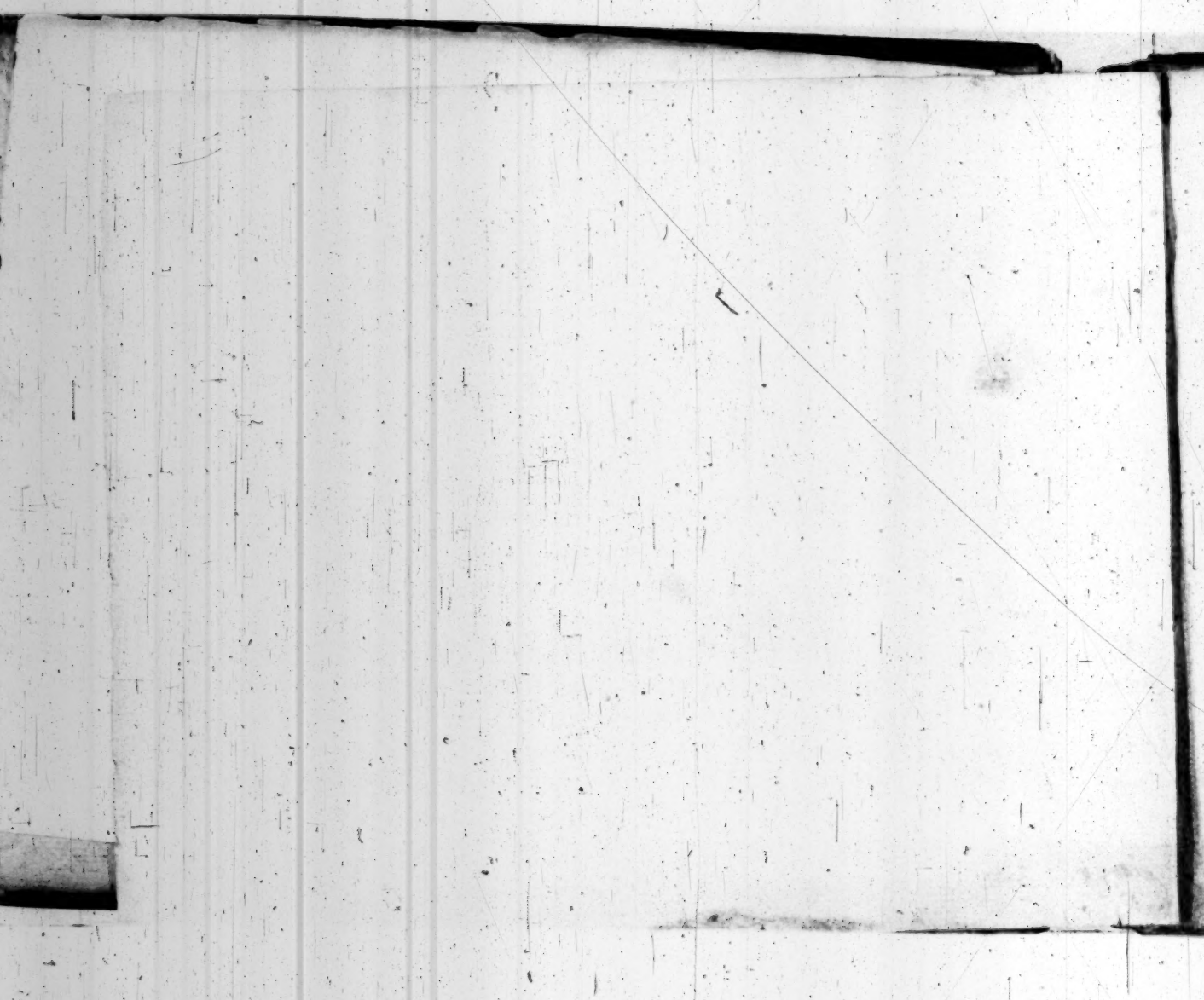
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Printed by John Bill Printer to the Kings most excellent Maiestie. 1626



TO HIS MOST SACRED

MAJESTIE.

SIR,



He Diuine Power that inspired the breath of life into man, infused the life of Authoritie into the King. This inspiration maketh man the image of God; that other maketh the King in particular the Lieutenant of God. And therefore humane right no sooner stileth one with the name of a King, but diuine Heraldrie graceth him with the title of a mortall God, thereby intimating that it is his chiefest glory, within the sphere of his Royaltie to imitate the singular gouernment of that power, whose Substitute he is, and with whose name he is honoured. Now the vnparalleled excellencie of diuine gouernment over the world is grounded vpon that distinct knowledge which the Creator hath of the nature, condition,

THE EPISTLE

dition, and vse of all creatures subiect to his gouernment. And surely the readiest way for an earthly Potentate to make his gouernment exactly analogicall to that *Idea*, will be by getting an accurate knowledge of the nature and qualitie of the Land and People ouer which God hath made him his Lieutenant generall. But the *Metropolis* and the *Royall Throne* require such frequencie of the Soueraignes presence, that such knowledge cannot be gotten by his owne obseruations. Our Maps therefore (especially being ioyned with discreet obseruations) as they are delightfull unto all, are especially vsefull vnto the King: for by this meanes, though residing in his Princely Seat, he may as the eye from the head, contemplate with much delight and profit the remotest Territories of his Kingdomes. And because affaires of a higher nature take vp the principal of his time, longer Descriptions are not for the purpose; the more compendious, so as accurate, are most futable to the calling of a King.

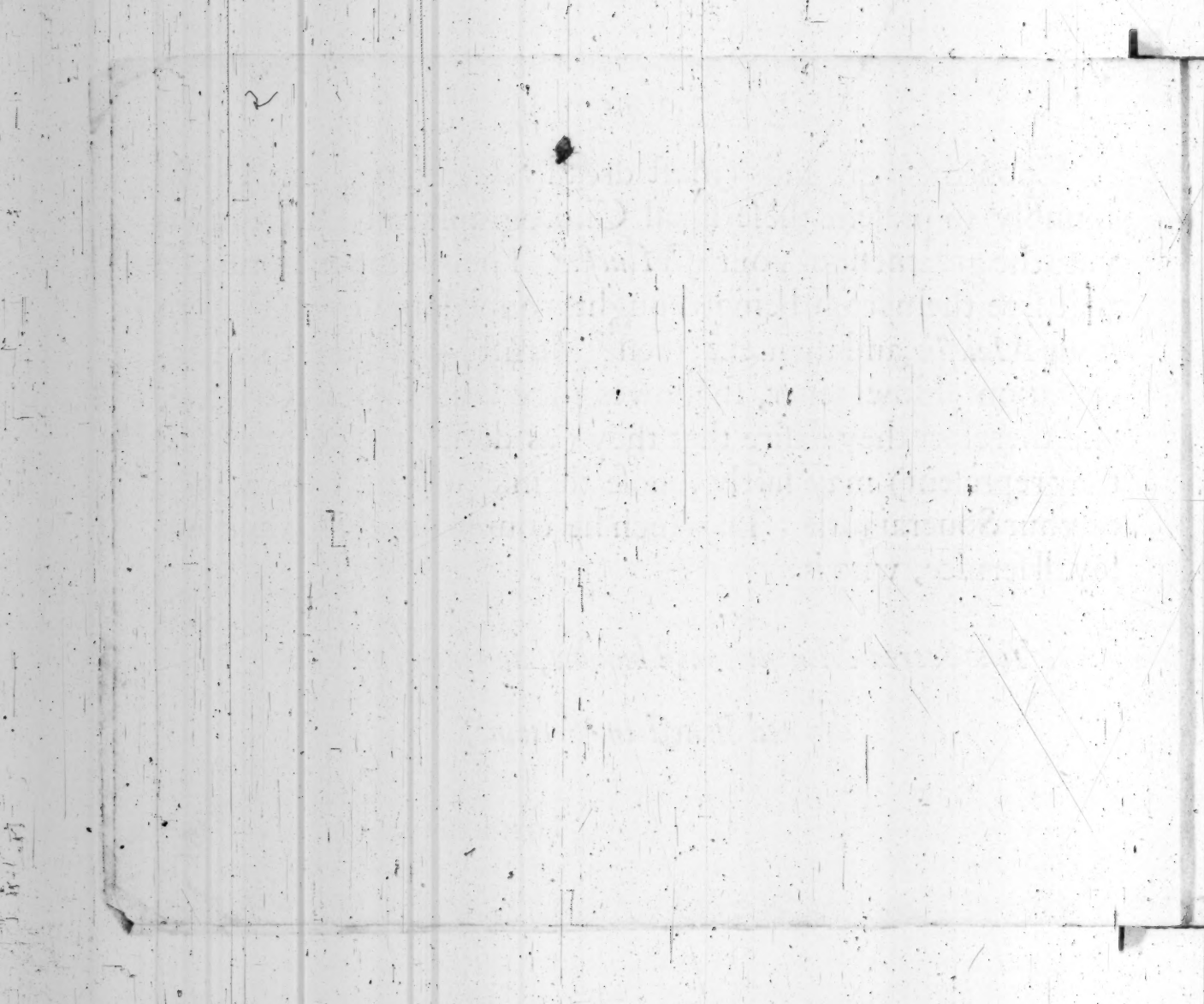
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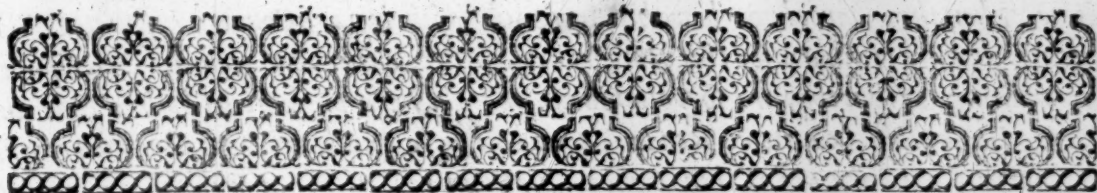
DEDICATORIE.

Vpon these grounds (most dread Soueraigne) am I bold humbly to present these small Chorographickall Descriptions vnto the greatnesse of your *Maiestie*. Their compendiousnesse will free them from being thought troublesome or tedious to your *Maiestie*, and their exactnesse (I trust) will gaine them acceptance. Howsoever, shadowes they are of your Royaltie, and therefore they desire that they (as doth that Body which they represent) may safely repose themselves vnder the wings of your Soueraigntie ; To which he commends them, and his loyall seruice, who is

*Your Sacred Maiesties most humble, and most faithfull
devoted Subiect and Seruant,*

IOHN BIL





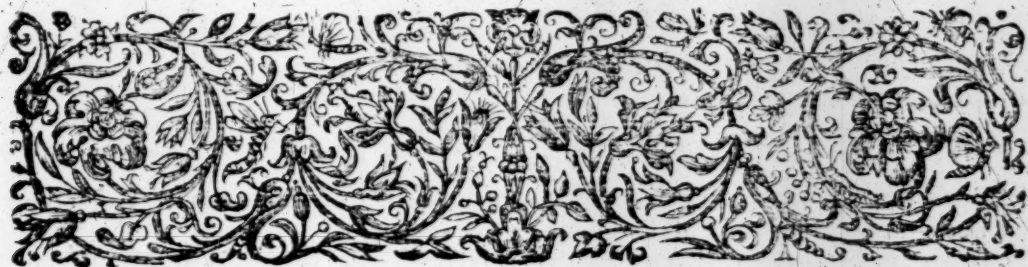
To the Reader.



F all morall knowledge, the knowing of our selues ; of all Mathematicall, the knowledge of our owne Countrey is the most usefull and profitable. Yet had most men rather spend themselves and their precious houres in the most difficult trifles in the world, than once to enter into themselves. And most Students in Geographie take more delight to contemplate the remotest and most barbarous Countries of the earth, than lightly to examine the Descriptions of their owne. So that (as if like those Lamij in Plutarch, they had eyes abroad, and inclosed them in boxes in their owne homes) they are accurate in the Descriptions of the smallest village in a foraine Kingdome,

To the Reader.

dome, when they scarce know how the Metropolis of their owne Country is situated. The excuses that are ordinary for this common neglect, are, either that accurate Descriptions are wanting, or that they are so voluminous, that they are preiudiciall both to time and purse. But behold (courteous Reader) thou hast here exhibited vnto thee such exquisite compendious Surueyes of thine owne native Countrey, as will at once take away these excuses, and ease thee of this double grievance. The Country described, both in regard of Commodities wherewith it is fraught, and places of note wherewith it is graced, is a perfect epitome of the World; these Maps and Descriptions are a compleat epitome of it, and therefore in a double regard worthy thy perusall. And because no Maps can be rightly vnderstood without some insight in the generall termes or notions of Geographie, I haue prefixed a compendious Delineation of the same. If thou readeest them, and profitest by them, I haue the principall of my desire; If thou doest both, with a candid approbation of the Labour, I haue it with Interest.



A DELINEATION OF

the vniuersall Notions of Geographie.



Geographie is a Science which teacheth the description, distinction, and dimension of the Earth; and according to the common diuision, is either generall, or speciall; or (as some of our late *Geographers* haue more fitly diuided it) it is either *Sphericall*, or *Topographicall*.

The *Generall* or *Sphericall* part of this Science is that which setteth forth the naturall constitution of the *Terrestriall Globe*.

The *Terrestriall Globe* is a round body comprehended within the superficies of earth and water, and situated in respect of the other Globes or Starres of the world, according to *Ptolemy* and *Tycho Brahe*, in the Center; but according to *Copernicus*, betweene

the Orbes of *MEARS* and *VENVS*.

The

A Delineation of the

The parts whereof it consisteth, are either $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Reall,} \\ \text{Imaginarie.} \end{array} \right.$

Reall, are such as agree to the *Terrestrial Globe* by nature.

Imaginarie, are such as agree to it by vertue of our vnderstanding.

The *Reall* parts of the *Inferiour Globe* are $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Earth.} \\ \text{Water.} \end{array} \right.$

The *Imaginarie* parts are certaine lines which are not, but (for the better vnderstanding of this Science) are supposed to be in the Earth.

These are either $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Straight, and of this kinde is only one, viz. the Axell.} \\ \text{Circular.} \end{array} \right.$

The *Axell* is a strait line passing thorow the middest or center of the Earth, the extreamest points whereof are termed *Poles*: the North point is called the *Articke Pole*, and the South the *Antarticke*.

The *Circular Lines* are diuided into the $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Greater,} \\ \text{Lesser.} \end{array} \right.$

The *Greater Circles* are such as diuide the Globe into two equall parts, each whereof containeth in it 360 Degrees, euery Degree being 60 miles; so that the Earth by this computation is 21600 English miles about, and almost 7000 miles thorow.

The *Greater Circles* are three in number, $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Meridian,} \\ \text{Horizon,} \\ \text{Equator.} \end{array} \right.$

And these are either $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Mutable, viz. with the mutation of the place, as} \\ \text{Immutable, as the Equator.} \end{array} \right.$ $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Meridian,} \\ \text{Horizon.} \end{array} \right.$

vnuerſall Notions of Geographie.

The *Meridian* is a Circle drawne by the *Poles* of the world, and the verticall point of the place. Of theſe (though the number ſet downe in the *Artificiall Globe* at the moſt be but 180) are there to be ſuppoſed in the *Reall Globe* as many as there are *Zeniths* or verticall points from Eaſt to Weſt. So places diſtant Eaſt and Weſt haue diuers *Meridians*, (and in this reſpect it is called a *Mutable Circle*) but places different directly North and South haue the ſame.

Among theſe one is of ſpeciall note and uſe, which *Geographers* commonly call the firſt and chiefe *Meridian*.

The firſt *Meridian* is that from which the longitude of places from Weſt to Eaſt is reckoned. This *Meridian* (according to *Ptolemie* and the Ancients) paſſeth thorow the *Canary Ilands*, but according to our latter Artiſts, vpon better reaſons, thorow the *Azores*.

The *Horizon* is a Circle comprehending al that ſpace of the Earth which is viſible, and diſtinguiſheth it from the reſt which lieth vnder and is inuiſible.

The *Horizon* is either $\left. \begin{array}{l} \text{Sensible;} \\ \text{Rationall.} \end{array} \right\}$

The *Sensible Horizon* is the Circle that terminateth a mans ken looking round about him in an open place; and therefore is greater or leſſer, according to the conueniencie of the place wherein a man ſtandeth.

The *Rationall Horizon* is a Circle paſſing by the Center of the Earth, whoſe two *Poles* are the point directly ouer a mans head, which is called the *Zenith*, and the point directly vnder his feet, called the *Nadyr*.

The *Rationall Horizon* is that which *Geographers* reckon among the greater Circles, and not the *Sensible*; but both change according to the change of the place which way ſo euer it is.

The uſe of this is to diſcerne the diuers riſings and ſettings of the *Starres*.

A Delineation of the

The *Aequator* is a great Circle passing thorow the midst of the Earth, and diuiding it exactly into two equall parts or *Hemispheres*, North and South. The vse of it is to shew the latitude of any place; for from it both the Southerne latitude betwixt it and the South Pole, and the Northerne latitude betwixt it and the North Pole is to be reckoned.

The lesser Circles or parallels, are either { named with peculiar names, as { the Tropicks of *Cancer*.
want such, and they are commonly called *Parallels*.
Polar Circles.

The *Tropicks* are *Parallels* bounding the Sunnes greatest declination, which is either toward the North, and from the Celestiall Signe is called *The Tropicke of Cancer*; or towards the South, and is from another Signe called *The Tropicke of Capricorne*.

Both of these are 23 degrees distant from the *Aequinoctiall*, the one Southward, and the other Northward.

The *Polar Circles* are *Parallels* compassing the *Poles*. That which compasseth the *North Pole* is termed from the signe of the Beare the *Arcticke Circle*; that which compasseth the *South Pole* is termed the *Antarcticke Circle*, because it is iust opposite to the former.

A *Parallel* compasseth the Earth from East to West, and diuideth it into two vnequall parts.

These foure nominated *Parallels* or lesser Circles serue to describe the *Zones* so much mentioned in the writings of Ancients; the ynnamed *Parallels* to set out *Climates*.

A *Zone* is a space of earth contained betwixt two lesser Circles: the number of them is five, whereof two are ouer-cold, one ouer-hot, and two temperate.

The two ouer-cold *Zones* are those parts of the Earth which lie betwixt the two *Polar Circles* and the *Poles*.

The

uniuersall Notions of Geographie.

The two temperate *Zones* are betwixt the *Tropicks* of *Cancer* and the *Articke*, and betwixt the *Tropicke* of *Capricorne* and the *Antarticke* Circles.

The *Torrid* or ouer-hot *Zone* is that which lieth betwixt both the *Tropicks*.

Both the *Torrid* and *Frigid* *Zones* (though the Ancients thought them to be altogether vnhabitable) are in many parts at this day well inhabited.

Againe, the Inhabitants in the burnt *Zones* are called *Amphiscians*, for that they haue the meridian shadow on both sides of them, some part of the yeere Northwards, and sometimes Southwards. In the temperate *Zones*, *Heteroscians*, hauing the shadow but on one side; and the frigid *Periscians* hauing their shadowes runne round about.

Also the Inhabitants in the same parallel and opposite part of the Meridian are called *Periacians*.

In the like parallel on the other side of the line and same meridian *Antiacians*. In the like parallel on the other side of the line and opposite part of the meridian, *Antipodes*.

A climate is a space of earth contained betwixt two parallels, distant from the *Equinoctiall* towards the North or South Pole: the vse of climats is to distinguish the length and shortnesse of the daies in all places, for places as they differ North and South, so haue they vnequall daies and nights; the more Northerly climats and places hauing longer daies in the Summer, and longer nights in the Winter than the more Southerly doe enjoy.

Thus much of the generall or sphericall part of *Geography*.

The speciall or Topographicall part hereof is that which setteth forth the description of the *Terrestriall Globe* so farre forth as it is diuided into distinct parts or places, and is either

- 1 The description of some great integrating part of the Earth.
- 2 Or of some one Region, and so it is properly termed *Chorography*.

A Delineation of the

3 Or of some particular place in a Region.

According to the greater integrating parts thereof, the Ancients diuided the whole world into three parts (no more being then discouered) namely *Asia*, *Africa*, and *Europa*; but now of late all the world being in a manner found out, the rest is diuided into other three parts (*viz.*) *Atlantis*, or *America Septentrional*, *Meridional*, and *Terra del Chasdi* or the *South Continent*.

Asia is bounded on the North with the *Hyperborean* Seas, on the East with *Mar del Zur* or South Sea, on the South with the *Indian* Seas, and on the West with the Red Sea, part of the *Mediterranean* Sea, the *Helespont*, and the Riuer *Don* and *Dunya*.

Africa is enuironed with the *Midland* Seas North, the Red Sea East, and the *Aethiopian* and *Atlantick* Ocean, on the South and West.

Europe is bordered on the East with *Don* and *Dunya*, on the North with the Frozen Seas, on the West with the *Atlantick* Ocean, and on the South with the *Mediterranean* Sea.

North America is terminated on the East with the North-Sea, on the West with the South-Sea, on the North with the *Hyperborean* or Frozen-Seas, and on the South with the *Isthmos* at *Panania*.

South America is confined on the North with this *Isthmos*, on the South with the Straights of *Magellane*, on the East with the *Aethiopian* Sea, and on the West with *Mar del Zur*.

The *South Continent* is accosted on the North with *Mar del Zur*, the *Aethiopick*, and *Indian* Seas. But how it is on the other parts is not yet discouered.

Each of these more spacious parts is againe subdiuided into many Regions, as *Asia* is diuided into these Regions, *Chyna*, *Tartaria*, *Muscovia*, *Georgia*, *Armenia*, *Natolia*, *Syria*, *Caldea*, *Arabia*, *Persia*, *Magora*, *India*, and *Cauchychina*, with innumerable Islands called the *Moluccoes* or *Spicerie* Islands and *Japan*, &c.

Africa

uniuersall Notions of Geographie.

Africa into *Egypt*, *Abyssina*, *Monomotapa*, *Magadoxo*, *Quiloz*, *Mozambique*, *Manicongo*, *Guinea*, *Byledulgerid*, *Barbarie*, *Cyrenaica*, and *Nubia*, with the Islands of the *Canaryes*, *Cape-verde*, *S^t. Helen*, and *Madagascar*.

Europe into these Kingdomes, *Crymes*, *Polon*, *Sweden*, *Denmarke*, *Germanie*, both the higher and lower, *Greece*, *Hungarie*, *Bohemia*, *Austria*, *Italy*, *France*, *Spaine*, with the Islands of *Candy*, *Corfica*, *Sardinia*, *Maiorca*, and these most famous Islands of *Great Britaine*, and *Ireland*.

North America into *Nova Britannia*, *Nova Albion*, *Nova Anglia*, *Virginia*, *Nova Francia*, *Florida*, *California*, *Nova Granada*, *Nova Hispania*, *Nicoragua*, &c.

South America into *Castilia del-Oro*, *Peru*, *Chily*, *Guiana*, *Ouram*, *Chicas*, *Brasilis*, and *Pantagones*, with the *Antellar Iles*.

The *South Continent* (so farre as is discovered) into *Nova Guinea*, *Luchach*, *Maletur*, with the Islands of *Salomon*.

Againe euery one of these Regions is subdiuided into Prouinces, Hundreds, or Counties. These three kinde of parts make vp the perfect subiect of *Topographie*.

Againe euery part and place of the earth is considered either $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{in it selfe.} \\ \text{according to its adiuncts.} \end{array} \right.$

In it selfe, and so it is $\left\{ \begin{array}{l} \text{Continent} \\ \text{Iland.} \end{array} \right.$

A *Continent* is a great quantitie of land in which many kingdomes and principalities are conioyned together, none of them being separated from the rest by any Sea.

An *Iland* (*quasi* an eie of land, called in Latine, *Insula quasi in salo*) is a part of land compassed and enuironed round about with waters, of which *Great Britaine* and *Iapan* are the most spacious.

A Delineation of the

These againe are obseruable parts both of Continents and Islands, { *Peninsula.*
Isthmus.
Promontorium.

Peninsula (*quasi pene Insula*) is a tract of land, which being compassed almost round with waters, is ioyned by some little necke or *Isthmus* to the firme land, as *Peloponessus* in Greece.

An *Isthmus* is a narrow peece of land which ioyneth the *Peninsula* to the Continent or greater Islands, as the straights of *Dariene* and *Corinth*.

Promontorium is a high mountaine shooting it selfe much farther into the Sea than the Adiacent land. The extremest point or nooke hereof is called a *Cape*, as *Cape-verde* in *Africa*, &c.

The adiuncts of a place are either such as respect { the earth it selfe.
the heauens.

Those that agree to a place in respect of the earth, are three in number, viz. { 1 The magnitude or extent of a Country.
2 The bounds and limits.
3 The qualitie.

1 The magnitude comprehendeth the length and bredth of any place. The length of a place is measured East and West; what figure focuer the place is of; the bredth thereof North and South.

It is to be obserued that those places that are vnder the *Aequinoctiall* haue no bredth, because that the measuring of latitude is begunne from this circle.

2 The bounds of a Country is a line terminating it round about, and distinguishing it from the bordering lands or waters.

3 The qualitie of a place is the naturall temper and disposition thereof.

vniversall Notions of Geographie.

A place in regard of the heauens is either

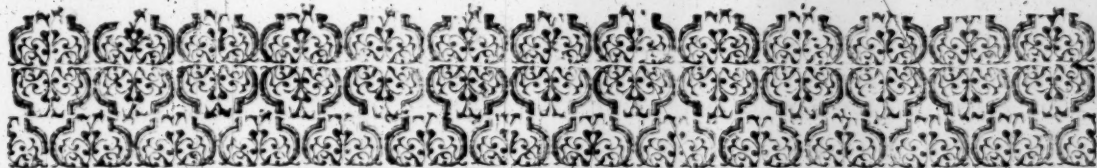
{	East.
	West.
	North.
	South.

Those places are properly said to be Northerne, which lie betwixt the *Aequinoctiall* and the *Arcticke* Pole. Those Southerne, which are betwixt the *Aequinoctiall* and the *Antarcticke* Pole.

Those places likewise are said to be Easterne which lie in the Easterne *Hemisphere*, terminated by the first Meridian which passeth thorow the *Azores*, and those the Westerne which lie within the *Hemisphere* which lieth Westernly of the same Meridian. And thus much of the vniversall Notions of *Geography*.

A TYPE OF ENGLAND





OF ENGLAND.



His farre famous Kingdome is bordered on the North with *Scotland*, on the South with the British Sea, on the East with the German Ocean, and on the West with the Hybernian Seas. It is situate in the temperate *Zone* and eighth *Climate*; watered with a multitude of Crystall streames, Currents, and Nauigable Riuers; the banks whereof are crowned with Flowrie Meadows, the Meadows replenished with abundance of Cattell, and accosted with all manner of fertile fields, of all manner of Corne and Graine; and besides all these affords many other both Commodities and Rarities, which hereafter are particularly expressed in their proper places. —

This kingdome was first inhabited by some Colonies which transplanted themselves from the neighbouring coasts of *France & Lower Germanie*, as the affinity of their Language, Policie, Religion, and Manners, doe vnquestionably proue; being the ofspring of *Gomer of Iaphets* progenie, as their owne appellation doth witnesse, calling themselves *Komery*, who possessed and gouerned this Iland about one thousand yeares. About fifty foure yeares before the Natiuitie of our Lord and Saujour, *Iulius Caesar* entred this land, which within one hundred and fifty yeares after was subiugated by the *Romans*, vnder whose commands they liued till the 430 yeare after Christ, when the *Roman* Empire declining, was forced to call home their Garrisons, and hauing before exhausted the strength of this Kingdome, left it a prey to the enemy, where-

upon

Of England.

upon the *Picts* assaulting this land thus disfurnished & weakned, they were compelled to craue the aid of the *Saxons* and *Anglies*, a warlike nation, inhabiting neare the confines of *Denmarke*; who being ariued, chased away their enemies; and allured with the temperature, fertilitie and pleasantness of the Country (flowing in great numbers) expelled the *Britaines* or *Komeros*, that would not liue vnder their lawes and subiection, and so held it till the yeare 1066. when *William* the Conquerour with his *Normans* subdued them, whose successors haue continually enioyed it to this present time.

It was anciently diuided by the *Romans* into three parts, *Britanniam primam*, from the South parts to *Trent*; *Maximam-Casariensem*, from thence Northward; and *Britanniam secundam*, which we call *Wales*.

After by the *Saxons* it was diuided into an Heptarchie, which at last (reduced to a Monarchie) was by *Elfred* diuided into Shires, Wapentakes, and Tithings; with Iustices and Sheriffes appointed for ministring of iustice, which partly confirmed, partly altered by *William* the Conquerour, was at last diuided into 39 Shires of the English, with the addition of 13 of *Wales*. In which are at this present two famous Vniuersities, the Seminaries of vertue and learning; 26 Bishopricks; 641 Market Towces, 186 Castles, 9725 Parish Churches, 555 Riuers, 256 Bridges, 13 Chafes, 68 Forests, and 781 Parkes. Tribunalls, or Courts of iustice temporall, nine, *viz.* Parliament, Starchamber, Chancerie, Kings Bench, Exchequer, Common pleas, Court of Wards, Admiraltie, and Court of Requests, besides Court Leet and Baron. Spirituall seuen, of Conuocation, Synods, Audience, Arches, Prerogatiue, Faculties, and Peculiar Iurisdiccions. Rankes of Nobilitie nine, that is, Dukes, Marquesses, Earles, Viscounts, Barons, Baronets, Knights, Esquires, and Gentlemen. And of Inferiour Ranke or Communitie three, Yeomen, Husbandmen, and Tradesmen.

The Battells by Sea and Land since the Conquest, fought by the Kings, Nobilitie, and Commons, against forraine innasions, and Domestique and Intestine warres, 76. The last and most Admirable, being in the Chase of the *Spanish Armado*; Ann. Dom. 1588.

A Table containing the provisions of the *Spanish Armado*
against ENGLAND in *Anno Domini 1588.* and *Anno*
ELIZ. REGINÆ XXX.

Leaders.	Provinces aiding.	Gallies and Gallions.	Ships and Hulks.	Pinaces and Caravels.	Great Ordnance.	Saylers.	Souldiers.	Galley- haues.
<i>D. Medina Sydonia.</i>	<i>Portugal.</i>	10	2		300	1300	3300	
<i>Diego de Mandrana.</i>	<i>Portugal.</i>	4			20	560		888
<i>Io. Martynes de Richaldez.</i>	<i>Biscay.</i>	10		4	250	700	2000	
<i>Michael de Oquendo.</i>	<i>Guianusco.</i>	10		4	310	700	2000	
<i>Pedro de Valdez.</i>	<i>Andoloxia.</i>	10		1	280	800	2400	
<i>Martyn de Vertendona.</i>	<i>Italiq.</i>	10			310	800	2000	
<i>Diego Floris de Valdez.</i>	<i>Castile.</i>	14		2	380	1700	2400	
<i>Iohn Lopez de Medina.</i>	<i>Medina.</i>		23		400	700	3200	
<i>Hugo de Moncado.</i>	<i>Naples.</i>	4			200	460	870	1200
<i>Antonio Buccade.</i>	<i>Mendoza.</i>		22		193	524	488	

ESPECIAL NOTES

worthy of obseruation.

13	H. 1.	The first Parliament was in	Anno 1112
19	H. 2.	Ireland was conquered in	1172
4	10h.	Normandy was lost by King John	1202
43	H. 3.	and the title thereto released	1258
11	E. 1.	Wales was subdued	1283
19	E. 3.	The order of the Garter deuised	1344
14	E. 3.	England first quartered the Armes of France	1339
21	E. 3.	Calice was wonne in	1346
5	Maria.	Calice was lost	1557
5	H. 5.	Normandy was wonne in	1416
8	H. 5.	King <i>Henry</i> the fifth was proclaimed heire Apparant and Regent of France in	1419
10	H. 6.	<i>Henry</i> the sixth was crowned King of France in the Citie of Paris	1431
27	H. 6.	France was lost in	1449
28	H. 6.	Normandy was lost in	1449
31	H. 6.	Aquitaine &c. were lost in	1453
4	R. 2.	Wat Tylors Rebellion	1380
29	H. 6.	Jack Cades Rebellion	1450
4	H. 8.	Nauarre surprised by the Spaniards	1512
			At



At the time of the first dissolving of Religious Houses
in ENGLAND there were

A rchbishopricks and Bishopricks	21
Deanries	11
Archdeaconries	60
Dignities and Prebends in Cathedrall Churches	364
Benefices	8803
Religious Houses	65
Hospitalls	110
Colledges	96
Chauntries and free Chappells	2374
Their Rates were <i>per annum</i>	320180

In the Prouince of *Canterbury*,

Dioceses Parish-Churches, Churches appropriated

<i>Of Canterbury</i>	357	143
<i>Of London</i>	613	189
<i>Of Winchester</i>	362	131
<i>Of Conuery and Litchfield</i>	557	150
<i>Of Salisbury</i>	248	109
<i>Of Bath and Wells</i>	388	160
<i>Of Lincoln</i>	1255	577
<i>Of Peterborough</i>	293	91
<i>Of Exeter</i>	604	239
<i>Of Gloucester</i>	267	125
<i>Of Hereford</i>	313	166
<i>Of Norwich</i>	1121	385
<i>Of Ely</i>	141	75
<i>Of Rochester</i>	98	36
<i>Of Chichester</i>	250	112
<i>Of Oxford</i>	195	82
<i>Of Worcester</i>	241	76
<i>Of Bristol</i>	236	64
<i>Of S. David</i>	308	120
<i>Of Bangor</i>	107	36
<i>Of Llandaf</i>	277	98
<i>Of S. Asaph</i>	131	19
<i>Peculiar in the Prouince of Canterbury</i>	57	14
<i>The summe of the Prouince of Canterbury</i>	8119	3303

In the Prouince of *Yorke*,

Dioceses Parish-Churches, Churches appropriated

<i>Of Yorke</i>	581	336
<i>Of Durham</i>	135	87
<i>Of Chester</i>	256	101
<i>Of Carlisle</i>	93	18
<i>The summe of the Prouince of Yorke</i>	1065	592

The totall summe in
both Prouinces, } 9284

3845



Shires in ENGLAND.

Cornwall.
Devonshire.
Dorsetshire.
Somersetshire.
Wiltshire.
Hampshire.
Barkshire.
Surrey.
Suffex.
Kent.
Middlesex.
Essex.
Hartfordshire.

Buckinghamshire.
Oxfordshire.
Gloucestershire.
Worcestershire.
Warwickshire.
Northamptonshire.
Bedfordshire.
Huntingtonshire.
Cambridgeshire.
Suffolke.
Northfolke.
Lincolneshire.
Rutlandshire.

Leicestershire.
Staffordshire.
Derbyshire.
Nottinghamshire.
Yorkshire.
Durham Bishoprick.
Northumberland.
Cumberland.
Westmerland.
Lancaster.
Cheshire.
Shropshire.
Herefordshire.

Shires in Wales

Radnorshire.
Brecknocksb.
Monmouthsb.
Glamorganshire.
Carmardenshire.
Pembrookeshire.
Cardiganshire.
Montgomeryshire.
Merionethshire.
Carnaruanshire.
Anglesey.
Denbighshire.
Flintshire.

THE MAPS

AND

DESCRIPTIONS

OF THE SEVERALL

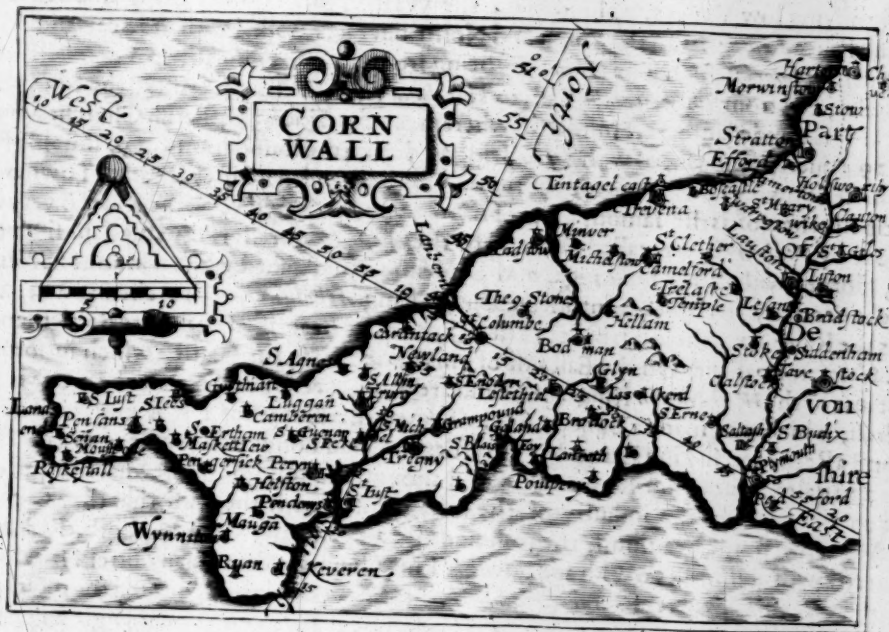
SHIRES OF *ENGLAND*

AND *WALES.*

Cornwall.



Cornwall deriveth the name from the *Brittish* word *Kerne*, which signifieth a Horne, and *Wal-*
lia signifying strangers, by which name the *Saxons* called the Inhabitants; whereof commeth
Cornwallia. the denomination of the Shire, which is inuironed with the Sea, except on the
 East side, where it is bounded with *Devon-shire*, and almost parted from the Continent by the
 River *Tamir*. It is in length from the Landsend to *Launston* 60. Miles, and at the broadest part
 next to *Devon-shire*, much vpon 40. Miles. It is diuided into 9. Hundreds, wherein are contained 161. Pa-
 rish Churches. It hath 7. Rivers to water it, and 31. Bridges; the Shire being fortified with 6. Castles. It
 hath commerce and traffique with 23. Market Townes, whereof *Launston* and *Bodman* are accounted the
 best. The Pole being there eleued 50. 43. degrees of Latitude, and the Longitude 19. 22. degrees. The In-
 habitants of this Countrey haue euer bene held, and still are, a strong, hard, and active people. The ayre
 (by reason that the Shire lies so open on the Seas) is very sharpe, subtile, and healthfull: The Countrey
 being often troubled with violent stormes. There are many hills in this Countrey wherein are store of Mines
 both of Tinne and Copper, whereby this whole Country hath bene, and still is, much enriched. And there
 is also a kind of sand which the Inhabitants fetch from the Sea-shore, wherewith they marle and batten their
 grounds, whereby they make it exceeding fruitfull. This Country is well stored with Cattell, Corne, Fowle,
 and Fish, wherein they much abound, but especially of Pilchards, which are there taken in such abundance,
 that besides the sufficient satisfying of the Country Inhabitants, they transport them into *France*, *Spaine*, and
 other remote places, to their annuall and exceeding great benefit. And for their Ships safe arriual, they are
 accommodated with many faire Ports and Hauens, of which that at *Falmouth* is of so great a capacitie, that
 100. Ships may ride therein at such distance, that out of neuer a one can be seene the top of anothers Mast.
 At *Biskay-wonne* in this County, are 18. stones set in a circle about 12. foot asunder, with a farre greater and
 higher in the midst, which is thought were placed there for the memoriall of a victorie obtained by the
Romans. So also the *Hurlers* (which some report were Men transformed into stones) are held to be set there
 vpon the like occasion. Another thing of note is, certaine great Rocks one vpon another, hauing the least
 which is vnder all the rest made like a Cheefe, and is called the *Wring-Cheefe*. But the most memorable of all
 is a Rocke neare *Porlans*, called *Maine-Amer*, which lieth on the top of other smaller, and is so poysed,
 that though a huge strength cannot remoue it from his place, yet may a man easily stirre it with a thrust of
 his little finger.



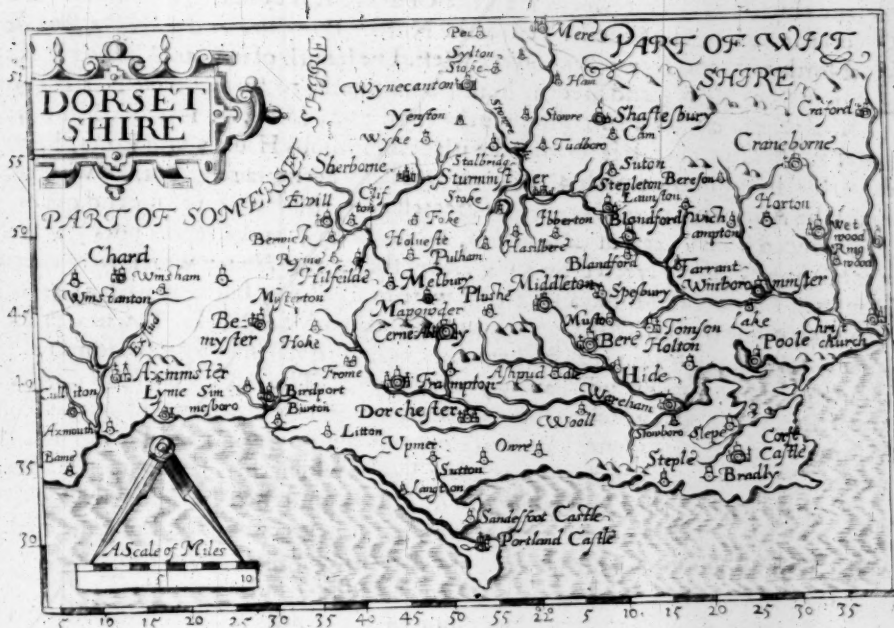
Deuon-shire.

D*euon-shire*, which the *Cornish-Britaines* named *Deninan*, and the *Welsh-Britaines* *Duffneint*, signifying low Valleys, abbutteth on the West vpon *Cornwall*, being diuided from it by the Riuer *Tamar* : On the South and North sides it is walled with the Sea, and on the East with *Sommerfet-shire*. The *Dimension* being from *Canshere* North, to *Salcombe* South, 55. Miles, and from *Thiarncombe* East, to *Hartland-point* West, 54. Miles, the compasse being about 100. Miles : It is diuided into 33. Hundreds, wherein are contained 394. Parish Churches, and it is interspersed with 29. Riuers, being fitted with 166. Bridges. It hath the foundations of 9. notable Religious Houses and Monasteries, which now remaine but ruines. It is well traded with 37. Market Townes for commerce, the principall whereof is the famous Citie of *Exeter*, which is seated vpon the Riuer *Ex*, and thereof hath the name: but by *Ptolomy* it was called *Isea*, and by the *Welsh* *Pencaer*. It is very pleasant situated on the rising of a Hill, adorned with stately buildings, and is plentifully furnished with all kinde of prouision, as well for pleasure as necessary vse. It was compassed about by King *Athelstane*, with a circular wall, except on the side towards the Riuer *Ex*, where it is built in a strait line, and is beautified with faire Battlements, diuers Towers, and 6. Gates, for passage. On the East side of this Citie stands the Castle, which in former times was the resident seat of the *West-Saxon* Kings. In it also are many faire Churches, but the chiefe is Saint *Peters* the Cathedrall, which was made a Bishops See by *Edward* the Confessor : It is gouerned by a Maior, 24. Brethren, and a Recorder, hauing Latitude 50. 45. degrees, and Longitude degrees 20. 39. This Shire hath many hills and dales, hauing store of woods : And though the soile be somewhat fruitfull of it selfe, yet it is very much amended by the industry of the Inhabitants, with the sand that they fetch from the Seaside. The Aire is sharp and healthfull, the commodities are generally Wooll, Cloth, Kearthies, Lead, Corne, and Cattrell, with abundance of Fish and Fowle. This Countrey hath many fitter Hauens for intercourse of ships, than *Cornwall*, whereof *Totnes*, *Plimouth*, and *Dartmouth* are accounted the most famous. In *Exmore* in this Shire are sandy stones set in diuers formes, some circular, and some triangle wise, which are said to be the ancient memorable markes of Victories obtained there by the *Romans*, *Saxons*, and *Danes*. And at a place called *Hubbow*, not farre from the mouth of *Tawe* (in the yeare of Christ 879.) was the *Dane* *Hubba* (who in many places persecuted the English) encountered, slaine, and buried.



Dorset-shire.

Dorset-shire the Inhabitants whereof (by *Ptolomy*) were called *Durotriges*, by the *Britains* *Duro-triger*, and by the *English Saxons* *Dor-Sedda*; It hath *Somerset* and *Wilt-shires* on the North, *Devon-shire* and another part of *Somerset-shire* on the West, *Hamp-shire* on the East, and the *British Seas* on the South. It is extended in length 44 Miles, in breadth 24. and makes his circumference about 150 Miles. It is shared into five divisions, viz *Sherborne*, *Bridport*, *Shafton*, *Dorchester*, and *Blanford*, and these are subdivided into 34. Hundreds, which containe in them 248. Parish Churches. It is interlaced with the currents of many cleare and fresh-water Springs, having 4. Rivers, and 24. Bridges, & in former times hath beene guarded with 8. strong Castles, which time hath now almost quite deuoured. It hath intercourse and traffique with 8. Market Townes, the principall whereof is *Dorchester*, which in the *Itinerarium* of *Antoninus* was called *Durnouaria*, signifying the *Ferry*: it is seated on the South side of the Riuer *Frome*, and *Fosse-way* the *Romane Cawse*. In times past this Towne was walled, and much greater than it is; but by the *Danes* who quierased downe the walles, it was brought low, and of a litle quantitie. It is now gouerned by two Bayliffes, one Alderman, and a Recorder: The height of the Pole being there 50. 38. degrees for Latitude, and the Longitude 21. 51. degrees. Not farre from this Towne on the South side is a small plot of ground raised some 30. paces higher than the rest of the Plaine, and compalled about with 5. Trenches, containing 10. Acres in quantitie, and is called by the Country people, *The May-Castle*: hauing entrance into it but only at the East & West sides; it is now tilled, and beareth Corne, but it is thought in times past to haue beene some sort of defence for the *Roman* Garisons. The soile of this Country is very fruitfull, producing many necessary commodities: the Aire very wholsome, and the situation most pleasant both for *Champion* and *Woods*, hauing in it 2. Forrests, 12. Parks, and one Chase. The chiefe commodities being here *Wood*, *Wool*, and *Corne*. This Shire hath also beene beautified with many faire Monasteries and Religious Houses, which are now transformed to heaps of Ruines, like that old decayed Castle of *Badbury*, which was intironed with a triple Trench, and had beene sometime the seat of the *West-Saxon* Kings.



Sommerfet-shire.



Sommerfet-shire is so called of an ancient Towne named *Sommerton*, which in former ages was the chiefest and most famous in all the Countie. It is bounded with *Devon.* and *Dorset-shires* on the South, the *Seuerne* Sea on the North, *Wilt-shire* and *Glocester-shire* on the East and North-east, and *Devon-shire* on the West. The length of it, from *Brackley* East, to *Oure* West, being 55. Miles; and breadth, from *Chara* South, to *Porshut-point* North, about 40. Miles, the whole circuit containing much vpon 204. Miles. It is diuided into 42. Hundreds, wherein are 305. Parish Churches. It is furnished with commodious Hauens and Ports, hauing 9. Riuer, and 45. Bridges. It is strengthened with 4. Castles, and hath beene fairely adorned with many Religious Houles, whereof the Abbey of *Glastenburgh* was of greatest note, both for quantitie and quality, the antiquitie whereof was deduced from *Ioseph* of *Arimathea*, whose body (as the report goes) was there interred. So likewise was *Witham* Nunnery erected by King *Henry* the 3. and *Hinton*, which were afterwards the first and second Houses of *Carthusian* Monkes that euer were in *England*; but now with diuers other like, they lie pressed with their owne ruines. This Countie is trafficked with 24. Market Townes, and 3. famous Cities, namely *Bristol*, *Bath*, and *Wells*, the first whereof, though vnequall in bignesse to some others in *England*, yet for beaurie and pleasant situation, will hardly yeeld vnto any. The next is *Bath*, so called from the *Hot-Bathes*, and medicinable springs, which to the exceeding comfort and wonderfull cures of infinite diseased persons of all sorts, by Gods prouidence doe there continually boyle and bubble vp. The third is *Wells*, which (as some hold) hath the name from certayne Wells which there spring vp, inso much as in former times that Sea hath beene called *Fontanenfis Ecclesia*. It is gouerned by a Maior, 7. Magistrates, 16. Burgeses, and a Recorder. The Latitude being there 51. 12. degrees, and the Longitude 21. 36. degrees. This Countie as it is most delightfull in Summer, the Aire being mild, temperate, and pleasant, yet is it as myry, moist, and wet in Winter, inso much as it is then exceeding troublesome for Travellers. But the soile is most fruitfull and fertile, yeelding in abundance most of our necessary commodities: yet chiefly doth it excell for the goodnesse of Corne, and farnesse of Cattell, wherein it exceedeth the most of our other Prouinces. Neither is it without rich Mines of Lead, which haue beene and are very gainfull to the Countie; and at *Saint Vincents* Rocke are gotten great store of Diamonds, which for beaurie and luster doe parallel the best, but are defectiue in the hardnesse. In this Shire haue beene fought many bloody battells, as that neere *Pen*, when King *Cannutus* was pursued by *Edmond* named *Ironside*; and that which was performed by *Ealstan* Bishop of *Sherborne* vpon the *Dames*, neare to *Bridge-water*, with diuers others.



Wilt-shire.



Wiltshire, which the old English-Saxons called *Wisseta*, hath *Berkshire* on the East, *Glocester* and *Somersetshires* on the West, *Glocestershire* alone on the North, and *Dorset* and *Hampshire* on the South. The length from *Burgate* South to *Inglsham* North, being about 40. miles, and the breadth from the Shire-stones in the West to *Buttermer* East (which is the broadest part of the Shire) spreadeth 29. miles, making the compasse of the whole Shire much vpon 140. miles. This County is diuided into 29. Hundreds, wherein are 304. Parish Churches; and it is well watered and irriguated with 5. Riuer, ouer which is conuenient passage by 31. Bridges. It hath bene fortified also with 8. Castles of strength, viz. *Malmesbury*, *Castlecombe*, *Lacocke*, *The Deuises*, *Lurgishall*, *Warder-Castle*, *Salisbury*, and *Marlinsborough*. It is traffiqued for commerce with 21. Market Townes, the chiefe whereof is the Citie of *Salisbury*, which in time past was placed somewhat higher than it is now, but was changed to a farre fitter place, where it is plentifully accommodated with pleasant Riuerets of fresh running water, passing thorow many of the streets. It is adorned with many beautifull buildings, hauing a most sumptuous Cathedral Church, wherein are as many doores as there are moneths, as many windowes as there are dayes, as many marble pillars as there be houres in the yeare. This Church was begun by *Richard Poore* a Bishop, being 40. yeares before it was finished: And (as my selfe haue read in an ancient Record yet remaining in the Treasurie there) amongst all the workmen that were at the building thereof, he that had the greatest wages, had but three halfe pence a day and found himselfe. This Citie is placed for Latitude 51. 5. and for Longitude 22. 35. Not farre from this, but somewhat higher, stands old *Salisbury*, which was anciendy the seat of the *Romans*, but now is transformed to ruines. This County is decked with many faire edifices, and in times past hath had the foundations of many Monasteries and Religious Houses, whereof that at *Malmesbury* it was of great note for *William* the Monke of *Malmesbury*, who with great industrie recorded the historie of this our Land; and another at *Ambresbury*, where *Queene Eleanor* wife to King *Henry* the Third spent her widowhood as a Nunne; besides diuers others which would be here too tedious to recite. This Shire is both pleasant and fertile, being situate in a temperate clime, and most wholesome. The North part (commonly called *North Wiltshire*) is both hillie and wooddie, which besides many other delectable Riuerets, is watered with the famous Riuer *Isis*. But the South being not so hillie, thorow which passe the Riuer *Wylly*, *Adder*, and *Auon*, is enriched most plentifully with grasse and corne: And the middle part, situate betweene them both, very leuell and euen, called *Salisbury Plaines*, whereon doe graze an infinite number of fleecie sheepe. At a little village in this County, called *Calne*, *Ann. Dom. 977.* was assembled a Synod about the mariages of the Clergie, where by the sudden breaking of the floore of the roome wherein they were, very many both of the Nobles, Prelates, and Commons, were slaine and sore hurt; but *Dunstan* the President was only vntouched.



Hamp-shire.



His Shire by the Saxons was called *Hamderbyr*, hauing his North side butting vpon *Barkshire*, his East vpon *Surrey*, *Sussex* with the Brittain Seas bounding his South side, and *Dorset* and *Wilt shires* with the Ile of *Wight* opposing his West. The length of this Countrey from *Basingb.* South to *Bla. water* North containeth 54. Miles, & the bredth from *Petersfield* East to *Tedworth*. West about 29. or 30. Miles, making about 155. the whole circumference. It is diuided into 37. Hundreds, wherein are contained 253. parish Churches. It is watered with 4. Riuer, ouer which for passage are 31. Bridges, and it is commodiously furnished with faire Hauens for ships, as at *Southampton*, *Portsmouth*, *Titchfield*, and *Hamble*, &c. It is fortified with diuers strong Castles, as at *Southampton*, *Calshot*, *Hurst*, *Saint Andrewes*, *Portchester*, *Worth*, and the South Castle, with diuers other places of strength which are situate on the Sea coast, for defence of the Countrey: Besides at *Winchester*, *Malwood*, and *Odiham*, which are seated within Land, Market Townes for commerce are in this Shire 18. whereof the Citie of *Winchester* is the chiefe, which by the Britains was called *Caer Gwent*; by the Romans, *Venia Belgarum*, and the Saxons *Windanearde*: it was built by *Rudborthus*, before our Sauours natiuitie 900. years, and after it had bene twice consumed by fire in the time of the Saxons, was reedified, the walls raised, and made the chiefe seat of the West-Saxon Kings, and the Metropolitane See of their Bishops: wherein were crowned *Egbert*, and *Elfred*, and *Henry 3.* was borne. In the time of King *Edward 3.* this Citie was made the staple for Cloth and Wooll, and in the Cathedrall Church of this Citie haue diuers English Kings bene interred. The situation of this City is in a bottome vnder hills, very pleasant and fruitfull, hauing the Castle on the one side, and the Riuer on the other, the walls which ingirt it containing neare two English Miles, hauing 6. Gates for entrance, and 7. Churches within it besides the Cathedrall; but heretofore it hath bene adorned with many others which now remaine nothing but Ruines. The graduation of this Citie for Latitude is 51. 5. and for Longitude 23. 10. The next to this in this Shire is the Towne of *Southampton*, from which the whole Shire hath the name; it is both beautifull and rich, walled with a strong stone wall, wherein are 7. gates, and 19. Towers, and two faire Hauens for ships, 5. Churches, and an Hospitall; and on the West side of this Towne standeth a faire strong double walled Castle, vpon the Top of a very faire high hill, making a most delightfull prospect both by Sea and Land. The aire in this Shire is very temperate, though sometimes somewhat foggy, which proceeds from the Seas adioyning to it, and the Riuer passing thorow it, which notwithstanding doo store the Countrey with plentie of fish. And for the soile it is both rich and pleasant, producing plenty of Corne, Cattell, Woods, and Pasture, bountifully storing the Inhabitants with Wools, Cloths, Iron, and almost all kinde of profitable commodities, both by Sea and Land.



Barke-shire.

THe English Saxons called this Shire *Berrocseyre*, which on the North is diuided from *Buckingham* and *Oxford*. shires by the Riuer of *Thames*; on the South it butteth on *Hampshire*, the East is bounded with *Surrey*, and the West with *Wiltshire* and *Gloucester-shire*. The length from *Ingleham* West, to old *Windsor* in the East, being about 40. Miles, and the bredth from *Islepen* South, to *Wightam* North, 24. Miles, maketh the compasse much vpon 120. Miles. This County is parted in 20. Hundreds, which containe in them 140. Parish Churches. It is interlaced with 3. Riuers, which for conuenient passage haue 7. Bridges. 13. Market Townes are also disperfed in it for the commoditie & commerce of the Inhabitants, whereof *Reading* is the chiefe, where the *Danes* An. 865. settled and fortified themselues. But it was built by King *Henry* 1. who adorned it both with a faire Monasterie and strong Castle, which the first *Henry* raised, and the 2. *Henry* razed and turned to Ruines. The Latitude here is 51.31. degrees, and Longitude 23.34 In this Shire is seated that famous and stately Castle of *Windsor*, which sometimes did belong to the Abbot of *Westm.* till *William* the Conquerour by composition obtained it, and made it his Regall Palace. In it was borne King *Edward* 3 who afterwards held there (as his prisoners) *John* King of *France*, and *Dauid* King of *Scots*. In this Cattle is also celebrated the famous and memorable institution of that most honourable order of the Garter, and in the Chapel thereof lie interred the bodies of K. *Henry* 6, *Edward* 4. and *Henry* 8. *Wallingford*, *Watham* in the East, and *Sinodum* in the North, in this Shire were all places of refuge for the *Romans*, as appeareth by their moneys which very often are found in those places. And Mr *Stow* writeth, that at *Finchamsted* in the year of grace 1100. did a wonderfull spring boyle vp for the space of 15. dayes sending forth streames of bloud. This County is adorned with many faire and stately buildings, 8. faire Castles, 3. of his Maiesties houses, and in times past had diuers Religious houses and Monasteries, at *Abington*, *Reading*, *Bysham*, *Bromhall*, *Hernly*, *Hamme*, and *Wallingford*. The aire is pleasant, temperate, and wholsome, the soyle bringing plenty of Corne and pasturage, yeelding an abundance of increase, especially in the Vale of *Whitehorse*. But generally the whole County both for profit and pleasure (producing Corne and Cattell, with woods, waters, and very delightfull prospects) is inferiour for the quantitie to no other Shire in England.



Surrey.



Surrey was called by the Saxons *Suthrea*, and by Beda *Suthri*. It is bounded on the North with the Counties of *Buckingham* and *Middlesex*, and diuided from them by the River of *Thames*: *Sussex* and *Hampshire* inclose it on the South, *Kent* on the East, and *Hampshire* and *Barkshire* on the West. This Shire is as it were square in forme; yet the length (extending from *Frensham* to *Redritb*) containeth 34. miles, and the bredth (from *Anfold* Southward to the *Thames* by *Stanes* Northward) is 22. miles, which makes the Shires circuit about 112. miles. It is diuided into 13. Hundreds, which containe in them 140. Parish Churches, and 8. Market Townes for traffique and commerce. In this County is no Citie nor great Towne, and yet may it compare with any for faire buildings and stately houses, whereof 5. are his Maiesties magnificent Palaces. *Ptolemy* affirmeth, that in this County an ancient people called the *Regni* had their residence, and after that *Ella* with the *South-Saxons* made it their Kingdome. At *Lambeth* (which was founded by Archbishop *Baldwin*, and is now a Palace for the Archbishops of *Canterburie*, and famous for being the seat of the Metropolitans of *England*) *Canutus* died, who was the last King of the *Danes*. And at *Kingston* in this County were crowned King *Athelstan*, *Edwin*, and *Ethelred*. And at the ancient Towne of *Guildford* (whose Pole for Latitude is eleuated 51. 15. and Longitude 24. 59.) was seated the royall Palace of the *English-Saxon* Kings. This Shire hath beene adorned with the foundations of many faire and rich Religious Houses, as at *Shene*, *Chertsey*, *Newarke*, *Rigate*, *Merton*, *Wauerley*, and diuers others: And also 8. strong Castles, at *Brenchingley*, *Goseford*, *Guilford*, *Farnham*, *Rigate*, *Darking*, *Starburg*, and *Addington*: but of most of them is nought now to be seene, but heaps of old ruines. This County is seated in a very delectable, pleasant, and wholesome aire; and though it be not large, and altogether so commodious as others for profit, yet is it pleasurable and healthie, yeelding sufficient store of corne, fruit, and pasture.



Middlesex.

This County was so called for being seated betwene the East and West Saxons and is bounded on the East by the River *Lea*, where it butteth vpon *Essex*, and on the West by *Colne* is diuided from *Buckingham*. The *Thames* parts *Surry* from it on the South, and *Hartford-shire* incloseth it on the North. The length from *Stratford* in the East to *Moorhall* in the West, containes of our English Miles 19. and the bredth from *Hampton Court* South to *South-Mines* in the North about 16. measuring the whole circumference about 90. Miles. It is distingished into these 7. Hundreds, viz. *Edmonton*, *Qsullon*, *Finnesbury*, *Gore*, *Isteworth*, *Sjellborne*, and *Elthorne*, in all which are contained 73. Parish Churches besides those in *London*. This County (though smaller in quantitie than many other) is the chiefe of all the Land both for beauty and ability, wherein are 2. Cities, and is watered with the most famous Riuer of *Thames*, being plentifully stored with Ships of great burthen, which continually send out and bring in all manner of wealthie commodities, for the abundant enriching of all these his Maiesties Dominions; which Riuer carries her course all along the South side of the farge renowned and euer famous Citie of *London*, which for antiquity hath almost worne out her Records; yet we reade she was first called *Troy-Nouant*, from *Brute*, and *Ludlowe* from King *Lud*, by the *Britans Londaine*, by the *Saxons London Cearder*, and now by vs *London*. It is the rich Seat and Royall Chamber of the English Kings, whereto from all parts of the world are brought all sorts of commodious Merchandize. Shee was first compassed with walls by the first Christian Emperour *Constantine* the Great, wherein besides other passages, are now built 7. most Magnificent Gates for entrance, and in it with the Suburbs are contained 121. Churches, besides the Cathedral of *Saint Paul*, which (as by tradition is receiued) was first the Temple of *Diana*. This Cities graduation is 51. 32. $\frac{1}{2}$. of Latitude, and in Longitude 24. 27. It is diuided into 26. wards, which by a Lord Maior, two Sherifes, and 26. Aldermen, is most religiously in all good order gouerned. In the time of King *Iohn* was the stone Bridge built ouer the *Thames*, which for strength, length, bredth, and beauty, exceeds all others in the world. Close adioyning to this *London* is the Citie of *Nesimaster*, famous as well for the seats of Iustice, as for the rich and stately Sepulchers of many Kings, Queenes, and other the Nobilitie of England. But if I should insist any longer in the particular descriptions of these Cities, I should exceed my limits, and therefore generally for the County thus. It is adorned with very many rich and magnificent edifices, whereof 5. are his Maiesties princely Palaces. The forme of this Shire is square like: The Aire delightfull, pleasant and healthfull, and the Soile rich and fruitfull, yeelding great plenty of full Corne of all kindes, and fat Pasture in abundance.



Kent.



His County of *Kent*, which by *Ptolemy* and diuers other Writers was called *Cantium*, is bounded on the East with the Germane Sea, on the West with *Sussex* and *Surrey*. on the North with the Riuer of *Thames*, and on the South with the narrow Seas and *Sussex*. It runneth in length from *Langley* West to *Ramsgate* East, about 53. Miles, & from *Rother* South vnto the Northern Ile of *Graine*, about 26. Miles, whereby the whole circuit containeth much vpon 160. Miles. It is diuided into 5. Lathes, and they into 66. Hundreds, wherein are counted 398. Parish Churches. The Inland of it is watered with 11. faire Riuers, over which is passage by 14. Bridges, and diuers of them are navigable, whereof *Medway* which diuiderh the Shire in two parts is principall. It is fortified with 27. Castles, and hath in it 2. Cities, 2. Bishops Sees, and for commerce and traffique 24. Market Townes; being besides garnished and fairely adorned with diuers stately and sumptuous buildings, whereof 8. of them are his Maiesties Houses. The chiefeft Citie is *Canterbury*, which is the Metropolitane and Archbishops See. It was built 900. yeares before the birth of our Sauour, (as we read in the ancient Britissh Histories) but afterward it became most famous by *Austen* the Monke, his conuertyng the Saxons to Christianity, and for the Cathedrall Church wherein is the Tombe of *Thomas* of *Becket*, which in the time of Idolatrie became infinitely rich by superstitious offerings. In it was King *Iohn* with Queene *Isabel* his wife crowned, King *Henry* the 3. married, and *Henry* the 4. buried, *Henry* the 3. granted it afterwards priuiledges and Charters *Richard* the 2. fortified and entrenched it, and Archbishop *Sudbury* walled it. The graduation for Latitude being there 50. 18. and the Longitude 25. 41. This Shire is well stored with faire Hauens for ships, some of them being strongly fortified, as *Winchelsey*, *Rumney*, *Sandwich*, and *Douer*, which with the Castle there is accounted the Locke and Key of the Realme. The Inhabitants of this County doe account themselves the freest of any other in *England*, because they were neuer conquered, but by Conquering *William* were compounded withall. The Christian faith was first planted in this County, and (as ancient Records doe testifie) the first Church dedicated to the seruice of Christ was founded in *Douer* Castle by *Lucius* the first Christian King of the Brittaines. In this Shire haue beene seated 23. Religious Houses, which now by time are conuerred to Ruines. The Aire of this County is temperate and healthfull, though sometimes mist-clouded with vapours from the Sea. The East side of the Shire is Hilly, but the West more plaine, euene, & wooddy, yeelding generally great store of all profitable commodities, but is most remarkable for Broad cloths, furs, and feedings for Cattell.



Sussex.



His Shire which of vs is called *Sussex*, was written by the *Saxons* *Suthsax*, signifying as if it were their South Kingdome, in the time of their Heptarchie. It is confined on the North with *Surrey* and *Kent*, on the West with *Flaveshire*, the Brittain Seas ingirting both the East and South. It is formed long and narrow, stretching in length from West-barting in the West to the Ditch that diuides it from *Kent*, called *Kent Ditch*, 64. Miles, but where it is broadest it contains not about 20. making the compassse of it about 158. Miles. This Shire diuideth it selfe into 6 *Rapes*, viz. *Chichester*, *Arundell*, *Bramber*, *Lewes*, *Pewsey*, and *Hastings*; and euery of these haue seuerall Hundreds, amounting in all to the number of 65, which containe in them 312. Parish Churches. Industrious Mr. *Speed* also writes that euery of these *Rapes* containe in them a Riuer, a Castle, and a Forest. The ancient Inhabitants of this County were the *Regni* in time of the *Romans*, who were subdued by the Lieutenant of the Emperour *Claudius*, and after the *Romans* departure, this Shire and *Surrey* became the Kingdome of the *South-Saxons*. Diuers places of note are registred in this County, but the chiefe of all is the City of *Chichester*, which by the *Saxons* was written *Cissan-Ceaster*, built by *Cissa* the *South-Saxon* King, who therein kept his Court. It is large, faire, and well fortified with a wall, and was made the Bishops Sea by *William* the Conquerour. The Pole being there eleuated 50. 52. and hath Longitude 23. 50. This Shire hath beene both strengthened and beautified with 10. Castles, and many Felicitous Houses, which were built for pious uses, but are now dissolued into Ruines. 18. Market-Townes for traffique of the Inhabitants are fitly seated in this County, whereof *Chichester* formerly spoken of is the chiefe, although *Lewes* both for bignesse and faire buildings Remeth to compare with it. The aire in this Shire is both temperate and pleasant, though sometimes darkned with mists arising from the Seas. The Soyle is rich, yeelding great plentie of necessary commodities, though in Winter it is both vnpleasant and vnfit for Trauellers by reason of the deepe and dangerous wayes in it. It yeeldeth great plentie of Fish and Sea-Fowle, with Corne, Canell, and Woods; and so doth it of Iron and Glasse good store, which are the two deuourers of those faire Woods. The middest of this Shire is decked with many faire Meadowes, Pastures, and Corne fields. But towards the Sea side are leaured diuers Hills called the Downes, which produce abundance of Corne and Grasse: The rest of the Shire being yet stored with plentie of pleasant Groues and Woods.



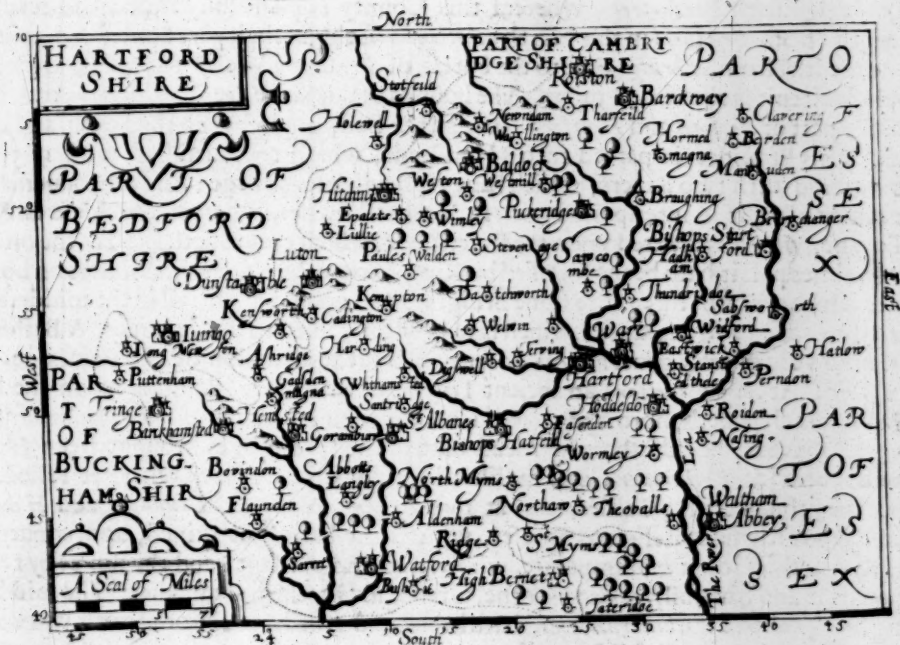
Essex.

THis County (which by the *Saxons* was called *East-seaxa*, by the *Normans* *Essexia*, & now by vs *Essex*) containes in length from *Horsey Island* East to *Haydon* West 40. Miles, and from *Sturmer* on the Riuer *Stow* North to *East-ham* vpon *Thames* South 35. Miles, making the forme somewhat circular, and the circumference to beare about 146. Miles. It is confined on the East with the Germane Seas, on the West with *Hertfordshire* and *Middlesex*. The *Thames* diuides it from *Kent* on the South, and *Suffolke* and *Cambridgeshires* bind it on the North. The diuision of it is into 20. Hundreds, which containe in the 415. Parish Churches. It hath 7. Riuers, ouer web is passage by 28. Bridges: and for delight is furnished with 46. Parkes & one Chase well stored with game. The Inhabitants here haue intercoure for traffique and commerce in 21. Market Townes, the chiefeft wherof is now the City of *Colchester*, which was built by the Brittiſh Prince *Coilus*, *Ann. Dom. 124.* and in it was borne *Constantine* the first Christian King and Emperour in the world. It is seated on the South ſide of the Riuer *Colne*, & therof beares the name. It hath beene fortified with a wall, wherein are 6. Gates, besides 3. ſmaller Poſterns for paſſage, and 9. Towers, & within and without the walls hath it 10. faire Churches, besides diuers other foundations of Religious Houſes, which are now vtterly decayed as well as the old Caſtle, which by the Ruines appears in times paſt to haue beene of very great ſtrength. This Citie is gouerned by 2. Bailiſſes, 12. Aldermen, and a Recorder. The Latitude being there 51. 52. and the Longitude 25. 37. In the ancient Towne of *Malden* in this County *Cuno-belin* that was King of the *Trinobantes*, held his Court about the time of our Saniours birth, and was afterwards a garifon for the *Romans*. till *Queene Budo* with the slaughter of 70000. *Romans* laid it leuell with the foundation. This Countrey is very populous, and hath beene beautified with many faire and rich Religious Houſes, and ſtrengthened with 5. ſtrong Caſtles. It is accommodared alſo with 5. conuenient Hauens for ſhips. The Aire (except by the Sea ſide) is both temperate and pleaſant, the Soile moſt fertile, yeelding very many excellent commodities, as Corne, Cattell, Woods, Fiſh, Fowle, and that rich merchandize of the beſt Saffron, which where it groweth ſo ſarneth the ground, that after three yeares gleabe thereof, the land for 12. yeares after brings forth Barly in abundance. Here are alſo many faire ſlocks of fine ſleeced ſheepe, which in this County they uſe to milke as they doe their Kine, whereby is made much cheefe, which (beſides the furniſhing of their owne Countrey) is transported and vitered in diuers other parts abroad.



Hartford-shire.

Hartford-shire (so called from the Shire-Towne *Hartford*, which some haue named *Herudford*) is of a circular forme, making 2. Diameters almost of an equall Longitude, crosse each other in the Center; for the one giuing the length from *Cheston Nunhery* in the East to *Putnam* West, containes but 28. miles, and the other North & South, measuring the bredth from *Royston* to *Totteridge*, is full 27. making the whole circumference to containe neare about 130. Miles. It is bounded on the East side by *Essex*, and on the West with *Buckingham* and *Bedford-shires*; the North butteth vpon *Bedford* and *Cambridge-shires*, and the South vpon *Middlesex*. This Shire is watered but with one Riuer, yet hath it many Riuerets, and 24. Bridges, and 120. Parish-Churches are contained in these 8. Hundreds, *Osney*, *Edwinstree*, *Branching*, *Brodewater*, *Hitching*, *Dacor*, *Hertford*, and *Cailsh*, whereinto this Shire is diuided: And it is traded for the vtterance of commodities, and traffique amongst the Inhabitants, with 18. Market Townes, whereof though *Hartford* be the Shire-Towne, and hath gotten her Officer in chiefe to be altered from a Burgesse to a Maior, (who associated with nine Burgesses and a Recorder doth gouerne it) yet is *Ware* and others for abilitie the better, by reason of the continuall passage of people, that make therein their thorow-fare almost into all the Northerne parts of this Realme. Here in this Towne was sometime seated a faire and strong Castle, which now appeares to haue tasted the scourge of Time, as well as diuers other famous and richly endowed Religious Houses, that in former times haue gorgeously adorned this County. The Longitude is here 24. 25. and the Latitude 51. 22. Neere to *Saint Albans* (that ancient Towne, made famous for diuers Battels there fought) in this Shire was seated that strong and magnificent Citie of *Verulam*, which was ouercome by the *Romans*, and endowed with the priuileges of *Rome*, but now lies dead and buried vnder the heaps of her owne ruines. The aire in this County is temperate, delightfull, and healthfull; the soile commodious, rich, and fruitfull, plentifully producing store of Cattell, Corne, Grasse, and Wood, with diuers other commodities most vifull for the Inhabitants.



Buckingham-shire.



His Shire is supposed to deriue the name from the *Saxon* word *Bucken*, which in that language signifieth *Beech-trees*, whereof this County is plentifully stored. It reacheth in length (from *Bradfield* in the North to *Wauburie* the furthest part South) 39. miles, and the breadth (from *Abridge* East to the Forest of *Brenwood* West) 18. miles, whereby the whole circuit is about 138 miles. The bounds of this Shire are *Northampton* and *Bedford-shires* on the North, part of *Bedford* and *Hertsford-shires* on the East, *Barkeshire* on the South, and *Oxford-shire* on the West. This Prouince is parted into 8 Hundreds, which are furnished with 185 Parish-Churches. It is watered with two Riuer, which haue 14 Bridges for passage: And for conuenient trafique of their commodities, it is interspersed with 11 Market Townes, whereof the chiefe is *Buckingham* the Shire-Towne, which is situated vpon the Riuer *Ouse*, which compasseth the Towne on all sides but the North. In times past it hath beene fortified by King *Edward* the elder with Sconces on both sides of the Riuer, ouer which are built three faire stone Bridges: and vpon a high hill in the midst of the Towne was sometime raised a strong Castle, which is now vtterly rased to dustie ruines. A Bailiffe with 12 Burgeesses doe now very orderly gouerne this Towne, where the eleuation of the Pole is 52. 2. and the Longitude 23. 30. At *Stony Stratford* an ancient Towne in this Shire, standing vpon the Causey called *Watling-street*, which passeth thorow *England*, is a Crosse, built by King *Edward* the first for a memoriall of *Eleanor* his Queene, because there her dead corps rested, as it was brought from *Herby* in *Lincolne-shire*, to be buried at *Westminster*; and the like did he doe in euery place where it rested. This Shire hath beene strengthened with 4 Castles, viz. at *Buckingham*, *Newport*, *Launden*, and *Hampsleepes*; and was also beautified with many Religious Houses, which time hath now ruined, and conuerted to other vses. The Aire in this County is temperate, wholesome, and pleasant; and the Soile (by reason of his fatnesse) is both rich and fruitfull, yeelding Corne, Grasse, and Marle in abundance. The middle part of the Shire being high, called the *Chilterne Hills*, hath beene and still is well stored with woods; and the Vallies lying plaine, are very fruitfull for medowes, tillage, and pastures, feeding infinite numbers of fleecie sheepe.



Oxford-shire.

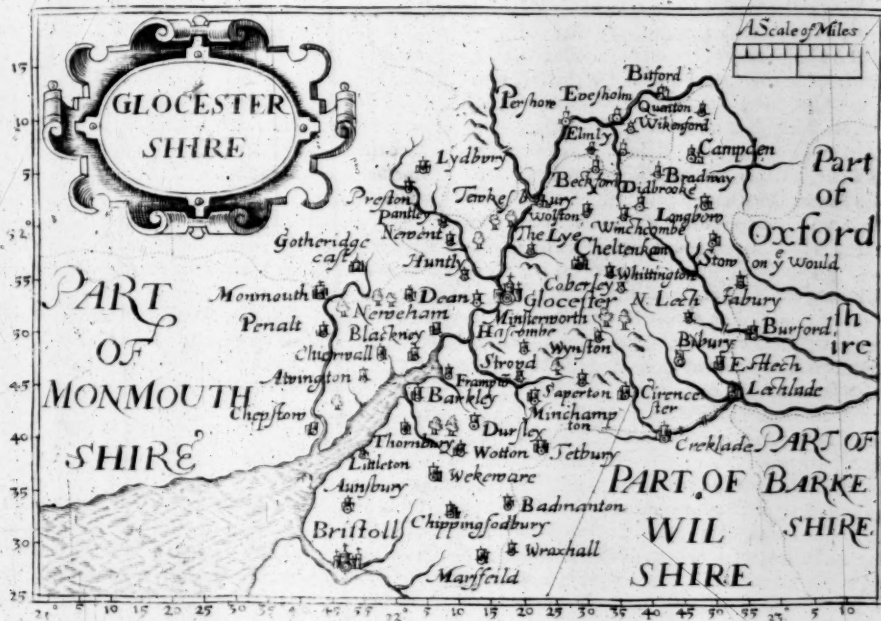


He Historie of our *English-Saxons* say, that the Citie of *Oxford* deriueth the name from the Foord of *Oxen*, from which Citie the whole County is called *Oxfordshire*, which is enuironed on the North side with *Warwicke* and *Northampton-shires*, on the East with *Buckingham*, the West with *Glocester*, and the South by *Barkshire*. It containeth in length, from *Cleydon* North-west to *Cauersham* South-east, neere forty miles; and in bredth, from the afore said *Cleydon* North to *Farringdon* vpon the Riuer *Isis* in the South (which is the broadest of the Shire) almost 26. miles, causing the circumference to come neere to 130 miles. This County is diuided into 14 Hundreds, and they haue 280 Parish Churches contained in them. It is interlaced with 3. Riuers, which are fitted with 26. Bridges. Foure Forests and 9 Parks doe also beautifie this County; and for commerce and traffique of commodities there are disperfed 10 Market Townes, the chiefe whereof is the faire Citie and euer renowned Vniuersitie of *Oxford*, which for the infinite numbers of most learned, reuerend, and famous Fathers, Doctors & Scholers it hath produced, and enriched this Kingdome withal, hath made it selfe not only glorious in this our Nation; but purchased an euer-living fame and memorie thorow all the Kingdomes of Christendome. This Citie hath beene walled, and strongly fortified with a Castle, which though time hath now vtterly ruined, yet is it adorned with 17 most stately Colleges, 8 Halls, and many other most beautifull buildings. The Pole is there eleuated 51. 47. and the Longitude 23. 15. About six miles from this Citie is seated *Woodstocke*, where King *Hen. 2.* built a Labyrinth to keepe his faire Concubine *Rosamond*, who was afterward poisoned by the Queene, and buried in the Nunnery at *Godstow* neere thereto adioyning. This County is adorned with many faire Mannors and beautifull buildings, wherein (as by their ruines doth appeare) haue beene many stately and richly endowed Religious Houses, as *Oseney*, *Godstow*, *Tame*, *Burchefer*, *Enisham*, *Beuerne*, and diuers others. The Aire in this County is both sweet, pleasant, and healthfull; The Soile rich, commodious, and fruitfull, yeelding to the Inhabitants great plenty of Wood, Wooll, Cattell, Corne, Pasture, and (in a word) almost all vsfull commodities in abundance.



Glocester-shire.

Glocestershire in the Saxon tongue was called *Gleancester-schyre*, fetching the name from the chiefest Towne the Citie of *Glocester*. It is ingirt with *Worcester* and *Warwickshires* on the North, *Somersetshire* on the South, *Oxford* and *Wiltshires* on the East, and *Herefordshire* on the West. The length of it (reaching from *Bristow* vpon *Auon* South, to *Clifford* vpon *Auon* North) is much vpon 48 miles; and the bredth (extending from *Leeblad* East to *Preston* West) 28. which causeth the whole compasse to containe about 138 miles. The ancient Inhabitants of this County were the *Dobuni*, and in some part the *Silures*. This Prouince is diuided into 30 Hundreds, which containe in them 280 Parish-Churches. It hath three faire Riuer, ouer which a man may passe by 22 Bridges; the chiefe whereof is *Seuerne*, which for store of Fish, bredth of Channell, and swiftnesse of Streame, excelleth any other in the Land. It is conueniently sprinkled with 25 Market-Townes for trade and traffique, whereof two are famous Cities, whereof the first and most ancient is *Glocester*, which about the middle of the Shire is situate vpon the Riuer *Seuerne*. It was built by the *Romans*, and was the Garrison Towne for their *Colonia Glouum*. It hath beene strongly walled on all parts but that towards the Riuer, as may appeare by the ruines yet remaining in many places. There was the stately Nunnerie built by *Osrick* King of *Northumberland*, wherein three of the *Mercian* Queenes succeeded one another, being Prioreesses. The Cathedrall Church (first built by *Edelfled*, King *Edward* the elders sister) was ruinated by the *Danes*, but afterwards reedified, and dedicated to *S. Peter*, where King *Edward* the second, who was murdered at *Barkley* Castle, lies intombed. The Graduation of the Pole in this Citie is 51. 54. and Longitude 22. 17. The other Citie, which standeth but part in this Shire, and part in *Somersetshire*, is *Bristow*, seated vpon the two Riuer *Froome* and *Auon*, and, as is formerly said, (the quantitie excepted) for qualitie is parallel to the chiefest in *England*. In the Island *Alney* neere *Glocester*, *Edmund Iron-side* combattted hand to hand with *Canutus* the Dane. And at *Barkley* Castle King *Edward* the second had a red hot spit thrust thorow his fundament into his belly. The foundations of many Religious Houses haue beene both raised vp, and rased downe in this County, where the Aire is very pleasant and delectable, the Soile being so fruitfull by nature, that the very Hedge-rows of their owne accord bring plenty of excellent fruits, and in times past hath yeelded abundance of most pleasant Vines; but now it produceth store of Corne, Fruits, Fine Wools, and Iron, and is most pleasantly accommodated with Woods and Pasture.



Worcester-shire.

By the *English Saxons* this County was written *Wircetrescyr*, which wee call *Worcester shire*, which being inuerged on the East with *Oxford* and *Warwicke shires*, is on the West diuided from *Herefordshire* by *Maluerne Hills*: the South is inuironed with *Glocester-shire*, and the North with the County of *Stafford*. It reacheth in length (from *Ridmery* South to *Yardley* North) 32 miles, and the bredth (from *Church Honyborne* East to *Tenbury* West) about 28. which maketh the whole circumference to amount much vpon 120 miles. Into 7 Hundreds is this Shire diuided, and those containe in them 152 Parish-Churches. It hath but one Citie, one Bishopricke, but is pleasantly watered with foure faire Riuers, as *Auon*, *Tame*, *Subwarpe*, and *Seuerne*, which passerh almost thorow the Center of the Shire: and these may be passed ouer by 13 Bridges. This Shire also is delighted with one Chase, two Forests, and 16 Parkes; and for concourse and commerce is sitwed with 10 Market Townes, whereof the Citie of *Worcester* (whence the County is so called) is the chiefeft, which is a faire, rich, and populous Citie, most delightfully situate on the East side of *Seuerne*, being built somewhat like the whole Shire, in a triangular forme. The old *Saxons* called it *Worceaster*, the *Latines* *Vigornia*, and we *Worcester*. It was founded (as is supposed) by the *Romans*, to opposit the *Brittaines*. It is compassed with a wall, which giues entrance thorow seuen gates, and both for defence and ornament hath fise Turrets. This Citie hath diuers times tasted of diuers fortunes, hauing beene sometimes almost quite consumed by fire, and otherwise grieuously oppressed by enemies, and yet is now againe become a famous and magnificent Citie, which hath a faire Cathedrall Church, first founded by *Sexwolve* the Bishop, in the yeere 680. wherein are interred the bodies of King *Julian* that was poisoned by a Monke, and Prince *Arthur*, King *Henry* the Seuenths eldest sonne. The gouernment of this Citie is orderly menaged by two Bailiffes, two Aldermen, two Chamberlaines, and two Constables, which being chosen out of 24 Burgeses, are annually changed. The Pole is here eleuated 52. 19. and the Longitude is 22. 17. The ancient Inhabitants of this County were the *Cornauis*, who in *Claudius Cæsars* time were ouercome by the *Romans*, after whose departure it became part of the *Mercian* Saxon kingdome. *Vpton* in this Shire in the *Romans* time was a place of Garrison for their Legions, and to this day are many of their moneyes found there. In this County haue many famous Religious Houfes beene founded; but by King *Henry* the Eighth were they rased downe like the rest, and nothing now remaining for their memoriall, but huge heāps of pitifull ruines. And with diuers strong Castles also hath this County beene fortified, whereof the most of them haue felt the heauy hand of fortune, to suppress them as low as their foundations were laid. In a most temperate and pleasant aire is this Shire seated, and for fertilitie of Soile may be accounted comparable to the best in the Land. It is plentifully stored with all kinde of most necessary commodities, yelding abundance of Corne, Cattell, Woods, and Pastures; hauing the fields and hedges set full of Peare trees, wherewith they make much Perry. Besides all which, in this Prouince are many Salt Springs, and diuers other profitable commodities, which yeld welcome gaue to the Inhabitants.



Warwicke-shire.



Warwicke-shire is so called from the Shire-Towne, now vulgarly named *Warwicke*; but was named by the Saxons *Warringwicke*, as our ever famous Historian *M. Camden* records; which he also judgeth to have bene the *Romans* Garrisons Towne. By *Ptolemy* they were called the *Cornavii*, wherein after were seated the *Mercian Saxons*. It is enuironed with the County of *Stafford* on the North, *Walling-streets* and *Northampton-shire* on the East, *Oxford* and *Glocester-shires* on the South, and *Worcester-shire* on the West. It is extended from *Newton* in the North to *Long Compton* in the South, 33. miles, and is spread in widenesse from *Hewell Grange* in the West to *Milborton* in the East, 25 miles, the whole circuit thereof being 135 miles. It is diuided into five Hundreds, viz. *Hemlingford*, *Coventry*, *Knightlow*, *Barklickeway*, and *Kington*, wherein are 158 Parish-Churches. This Shire is interlaced with eight Rivers, as *Avon*, *Anker*, *Blyth*, *Bourne*, *Leame*, *Sherburne*, *Sowe*, and *Tame*, being fitted with 29 Bridges. It is traded with 16 Market Townes, the chiefe whereof are *Coventry* and *Warwicke*, *Coventry* being stately adorned with faire buildings, well fortified with a Wall, wherein are 13 Gates, and 18 Towers, by the grant of King *Edward* the Third, whereby also they might elect a Maior and two Bailiffes; but by King *Henry* the Sixth it was incorporated a County of it selfe, and the names of Bailiffes turned into Sheriffes, by which at this day it is governed. At *Goffard Gate* in the East end of this Citie, hangs the shield-bone of a wilde Beare, slaine by Sir *Guy* of *Warwicke*, as the report goes. *Warwicke* is built vpon the North-East banke of *Avon*, by *Gurgustim* the sonne of *Belinus*, 375 yeeres before the birth of our Sauour. There is a very sumptuous Castle lately repaired by Sir *Fulke Grenill*; and from the Towne ouer the Riuer is a very faire strong stone Bridge, the passage into the Towne being hewed out of the Rocks. It hath two faire Churches, and is gouerned by a Bailiffe, 12 Brethren, and 24 Burgesies. This Shire is beautified with many faire Edifices, hauing had sometime 12 notable foundations of Religious Houses and Monasteries, 20 Parks, and one Chase. The Riuer *Avon* hath on the North side the *Woodland*, and on the South side the *Feilden*, with the Vale of *Red-Horse*. It is abundantly fruitfull, producing plenty of Cornes Woods, and Wood, with Mines of Iron and Cole. At a place called *Shugborne* in this Shire is found the pretious stone *Asfortes*. At *Offiburch* is the Palace of the great *Norman* Commander *Offa*. At *Lemington* (farre from the Sea) is a Spring where Salt water continually boyles vp. And at *Newtonham Regis* is found a Well, the water whereof is very medicinable for many diseases, and turneth wood into stone. At *Guyes Cliffe* neere *Warwicke* the famous Earle *Guy* (after many worthy exploits atchieued) lead an Hermites life vnknowne.



Northampton-shire.

This Shire, by the Saxons termed *Northfendenshire*, and by vs *Northampton-shire*, is long and narrow, seated very neere the Center of *England*, and is bounded on the East by *Huntington-shire*, hauing the *Riuer Nene* to diuide them; on the West by *Warwicke* and *Walling-streets*: the North is seuered from *Lincolne-shire* by the *Riuer Weland*; and *Oxford* and *Buckingham-shires* inclose it on the South. It containes in length (from *Cherwell* to *Weland Riuer* neere *Crowland*) 46 miles, and at the broadest (betweene the *Rivers of Ouse* and *Auon*) neere 20, the whole circuit being about 119 miles. Into 20 Hundreds is this Shire shared, which containe in them 326 Parish Churches: and with five *Rivers* is it watered, which are passeable by 24 Bridges. Moreouer with three Forrests and 23 Parkes is this County delighted. For Traffique and Trade amongst the Inhabitants, there are seated seuerally 11 Market Townes, whereof the Shire-Towne *Northampton* (whence the County carries the name) is of most account, being both large in quantitie; and beautifull in qualitie; for it is adorned with many faire and stately buildings, it is pleasantly seated on the *Riuer Nene*, and (excepting on the *Rivers side*) was anciently strongly walled with stone; but *Such* the *Danish King* first fired it, and after that in *King Iohns* time the disloyall Barons afflicted it, since when hath it not bene free from cruell Fortunes bitter blasts. The ruines of (her sometime strong defence) the Castle stand weather-beaten vpon a mount on the West part of the Towne, to shew what it had bene. This Towne is ciuilly gouerned by an annuall elected Maior, two Bailiffes, 12 Magistrates, and a Recorder; the Pole being eleuated 52. 16. and the Longitude 23. 44. In this County also is seated the Citie of *Peterborough*, which by the Saxons was called *Meddeswell*, where was a magnificent Monasterie built and dedicated to *S. Peter* by the *Mercian King Wolphere*; which though it be now ruinated, yet is there a most faire and stately Cathedrall, hauing a large Cloyster, in the glasse windowes whereof the historie of *Wolphere* the Founder is most curiously figured. This County hath bene fortified for defence with ten strong and famous Castles, and likewise plentifully stored with the foundations of many faire and rich Religious Houses, which for their magnificall state in time of their standing, were as so many beautifull ornaments to the Shire; whereas now their dust and ruines are but motives of pittie to all that passe by them. The Aire in this Prouince is temperate, pleasant, and healthfull; and the Soile fat, rich, and fertile, producing all kinde of the best Corne: And for delightfull Medowes, cheerefull Woods, and pleasant Pastures, the Inhabitants are so plentifully furnished, as their herds of cattell and faire flocks of sheepe (which both for flesh and fleece cannot be bettered) doe so infinitely multiply, as thereby the Countrey is beset with all kinde of vicfull and necessary commodities in an abundant manner.



Bedford-shire.



His Shire taketh the name from the Shire-Towne, called by vs. *Bedford*, from the *Saxon* name *Bedenford*, but by the *Brittaines* it was called *Lettidur*. This County is bordered on the North side with *Huntington-shire*, on the South with *Buckingham* and *Hartford-shires*, on the East with *Hartford* and *Cambridge-shires*, and vpon the West with *Northampton* and *Buckingham-shires*. It is but a small Continent, being in length (from *Tilbrooke* North to *Stendham* South) about 24 miles, and the bredth (from *Turney* West to *Hatley Coking* in the East) scarce 14 miles, which causeth the circumference to make in all not about 73 miles. It is distinguished into nine Hundreds, wherein are 116 Parish-Churches. Only one Riuer (which is *Ouse*) watereth this Shire, which is ouerpasse but by six Bridges. It hath intercourse for the traffique of commodities with ten Market Townes, whereof that at *Bedford* (the most famous) is most pleasantly seated, in a most fruitful soile, hauing the Riuer *Ouse* diuiding the Towne in the midst, ouer which is built a faire and strong stone Bridge, with two Gates, for the preuention of passage if need should require. And here on the brinke of this Riuer sometime stood a little Chapell, wherein (as ancient Writers record) *Offa* the *Mercian* King was buried, whose Monument a long time there remained, till the ouerflowing Riuer washed it cleane away. This Towne hath a Maior, two Bailiffes, two Chamberlaines, and a Recorder, to gouerne it: the Longitude there being 24. 0. and the Eleuation of the Pole for Latitude 52. 11. At *Dunstable* in this Shire, and *Sandey*, which were then called *Magnitum* and *Selene*, lay the *Roman* Legions, where to this day are found diuers sorts of their Coynes. And afterwards hence did the *Saxons* drine out the *Brittaines*, and seated themselues in their roome. At a place neere *Harwood* (Anno 1399) the Riuer *Ouse* stood suddenly still, so as men went three miles in the bottome of the Channell on foot without any danger. This Shire also hath beene beautified with diuers faire Castles, as at *Woodhill*, *Tenstford*, *Eaton*, and *Amphill*, and many famous Houses of Religion, which are now vtterly abolished and laid leuell with their foundations. The Aire here is very temperate and pleasant bringing both delight and health to the Inhabitants. The Soile is rich and fertile, but especially where the Riuer *Ouse* by the moistning of her bankes makes the meadowes send forth their increase in abundance. And although the other parts of the Shire are somewhat more barren, being for the most part a *Champion*, yet by the industrious Inhabitants it is well stored with Barly, and plenty of Pasturage, and is not wanting for some store of Woods.



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Huntington-shire.



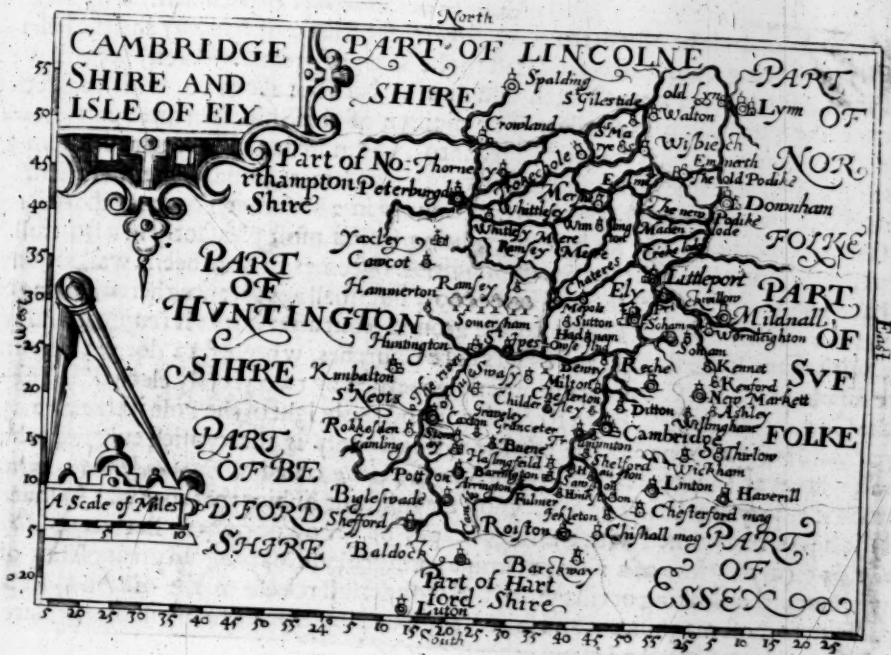
Huntington-shire, which was called by the Ancients *Hunddumscyre*, is enuironed with *Lincolne* & *Northampton-shires* on the North, *Bedford* and *Cambridge-shires* on the South, the Ile of *Ely* on the East, and *Northampton-shire* on the West. It reacheth in length (from *Tetworth* South to *Woodstone* North) not aboue 20 miles, & from *Erith* East to *Keston* West (where it is broadest) much about 16. In the time of the *Romans* it was part of the *Iceni*, & vnder the *Saxons* part of *Mercia*, which till *Canutus* time was all Forest. This Shire in ancient time had 5, but now is distinguished into but 4 diuisions, called the Hundreds of *Norman Crosse*, *Huntington*, *Leightonstone*, and *Tosland*, which are subdiuided into 79 Parishes, which are measured by Hides and Carucks of plowed lands; and they are interlaced and irriguated with the Riuer *Ouse*, and diuers other Riuerets besides, the Fens & Marsh grounds stretching towards *Lincolne-shire* and the Ile of *Ely*. And for commerce and traffique amongst the Inhabitants, this County (being not very big) containeth but six Market Townes, wherof *Huntington* the Shire-Towne and denominator of the whole County, is accounted the chiefe, which in old time was called *Hundendan*, or *The Hunters Downe*, and is situate on the North banke of the Riuer *Ouse*, on the rising of a hill, and in former ages had in it 15 Churches, which are now suppressed with their own ruines, except 2 *Maries* & 3 others. This Town in the time of the Conqueror was diuided into 4 Wards, wherin were contained 256 households: and here was money coyned, hauing on the one side the image & stile of the King, and on the other side the name of the Earle or Bishop then being in the time of the coynage. The Castle also is now vtterly ruinated, which by some is thought to be built by *Edw.* the elder, & the seat of the great *Saxon* Earle *Waltheol*, but rased down by *Hen. 2.* Here *Danid* Earle of *Anguise* built the Hospitall of *S. Iohn Bapt.* & with many other Monasteries and religious houses was as well this Towne as the whole County adorned. The Riuer to this Towne was once nauigable, till *Grey* the Kings Fauourite stopt vp the passage: and by Charter from *K. Iohn* is the gouernment hereof comitted to 2 yeerely elected Bailiffes & a Recorder, with some other Assistants. The Pole being eleuated 32. 23. and the Longitude 24. 21. The many rich and stately Monasteries and Religious Houses in this County were by *K. Hen. 8.* laid leuell with their foundations, and in their owne ruines entombed. This Prouince on the West side is more hillie and healthfull than the other toward the Fens and Marshes, and yeeldeth store of corne and other vsfull commodities: and the lower watery grounds are equall to any part of *England* for goodnesse of feeding, and the best pasturage, besides plenty of Turfe and Fuell from the Moores and Marsh grounds. So, as well as any other Shire, is this County accommodated with Corne, Flesh, Fowle, and Fish, and wants almost nothing that is necessary.



Cambridge-shire.



THE English Saxons called this County *Grentbrig-scyre*, which wee call *Cambridge-shire*, and is bordered vpon on the East with *Suffolke* and *Norfolke*, on the West with *Huntingdon* and *Bedford-shires*, on the North with *Norfolke* and *Lincolne-shire*, and on the South with *Essex* and *Hartford-shire*. The length of it (from the furthest of the Fenns in the North, to *Rayson* South) contains 35 miles, and the breadth at the broadest from East to West, is scarce 20. and the whole compasse being measured with her many turnings, amounts to 118 miles. It is but a small Shire, and yet is diuided into 17 Hundreds, which haue in them 165 Parish Churches, and eight Market Townes, whereof the most famous and euer flourishing Vniuersitie of *Cambridge* is the principall, which is situate on the East side of the Riuer *Came*, from whence (as some hold) she hath her name; although other Histories of antiquitie deriue it from *Canaber*, who 375 yeeres before the Incarnation had there seiled the Muses seat. And albeit in many Ages this Citie (like many others) hath tasted many wofull fortunes, yet now is it beautified and fairely adorned with sixteene most magnificent Colleges and Halls, full stored with painfull Students, and as euer it hath, so still it doth with abundant increase of most learned and famous Doctors, Teachers, and Professors of all Arts and Sciences, enrich not only this our Land, but all others whereto they are dispersed. The Eleuation of the Pole is here 52. 17. degrees, and Longitude 24. 46. Another Citie in this Shire was sometime also of great note, called by the Saxons *Elg*, but now by vs *Ely*, which grew first famous for one *Audrey* a Princeesse, and wife to *Egbert* King of *Northumberland*, who there built a Nunnery, and leauing her husband, was the first Abbess of it her selfe. Yet this also escaped not the fury of misfortune, for afterwards by the *Danes* was it vtterly ruinated, till *Ethelwold* the Bishop of *Winchester* repaired it, and built there a Monastierie for Monkes. And though it be now also dissolved, yet is there remaining the stately Cathedrall of that Diocesse. This County hath had many faire foundations of rich Religious Houses, as at *Beach*, *Barnwell*, *Chartres*, *Denny*, *Elsey*, *Sherges*, *Swasey*, and *Thorney*: but these as well as the rest were suppress and deprest with the weight of King *Henry* the Eighths hand. Amongst the remarkable things in this County, *Gogmagog Hills* is one, which is neere vnto *Cambridge*, and was a Fort with a Treble Trench raised there by the *Danes*, whose Station it then was. And another was a long and large Trench, passing quite thorow *Newmarket Heath*, which is commonly called *The Devils Ditch*, but at first was made there to defend the *East-Angles* against the *Mercians*, as our ancient Histories doe record. The Fenns on the North of this County doe make the Aire neither so pleasant nor wholesome as it is in other Shires; but more Southerly it is much more delectable. And as in it, so is there a difference in the Soyle, which on the South is Feilden; and being watered with the Riuer *Came*, is fraught with faire Medowes and Pastures, and yeeldeth plenty of Corne, some Saffron, and Woods: The Fenny part being exceedingly replenished with abundant store both of Fish and Fowle.



Suffolke.

THis County was termed by the Saxons *Suthfole*, and is bounded on the East with the German Seas, on the West with the County of *Cambridge*; the South side by *Stowre* is seuered from *Essex*, and the North from *Norfolke* by the Riuer of *Wanney* and the lesser *Onse*. The length (being from *Easton point* East to the Riuer of great *Onse* West) 45 miles; and at the broadest part (betweene North and South) hath but about 20. which causeth the whole compasse to containe much vpon 146 miles. The diuision of this Shire is in three parts, viz. *Celdable*, *S. Edmunds*, and *S. Audries*, which are subdiuided into 22 Hundreds, and containe in them 575 Parish-Churches. Besides small Streames, it is watered but with two Riuers, which haue ouer them 32 Bridges. The Inhabitants doe trade for commodities in this County in 28 Market Townes, the chiefest whereof is *Ipswich*, a faire and stately Towne for buildings, being seated most pleasantly in a fruitfull Soile, and welltraded with all kinde of merchantable commodities. It seemes to haue beene walled about in times past, and to haue had Gates for entrance, where is now but small appearance thereof, being cast downe by the *Danes*, who rased the whole Towne to the ground; but afterwards it reuiued, and was beautifully rebuilt, with many large streets, and diuers faire Churches, whereof 12 doe yet remaine, besides those that are dissolued. It is a Corporation orderly gouerned by two yeerely elected Bailiffes, 10 Portmen, 24 of the Common Counsell, and a Recorder. And the height of the Pole is there 52. 4 and Longitude 25. 52. And their ancient Towne of note in this County is that which euer since the buriall of King *Edmund* (who was shot to death at *Hoxon*) is therefore called *S. Edmunds Bury*, where for that Kings perpetuall memory was built one of the most magnificent Abbies that euer was founded; yet now (like the rest) it lies ouerwhelmed with the huge heapes of her owne ruines. Betweene *Alborough* and *Orford*, Anno 1555 (in the time of a violent famine) miraculously sprung vp great plenty of Pease on the Rocks, without either sowing or tillage, to the wonderfull releefe of the distressed inhabitants of this County. Diuers most magnificent and faire Religious Houses haue beene in diuers places situate in this Shire, which are depressed. And many other places and accidents remarkable doth this County afford, which to keepe my selfe within my limited bounds, I am forced to omit. The Aire is here fresh, pleasant, and healthfull; the Soile rich, fat, and fruitfull, producing Pasture, Corne, Cartell, Woods, Woolls, Cloth, and Fish and Fowles in abundance.



Norfolke.



Because this County was the furthest North part of the Kingdome of the *East-Angles*, it was tearmed *Northfolke*, which wee call *Norfolke*, and is bounded on the East and North with the German Seas, on the South it is seuered from *Suffolke* with the Riuer of *Wauney* and the lesser *Ouse*, and on the West it butts vpon *Lincolne* and *Cambridge shires*. It stretcheth in length (from *Yarmouth* East to *Wibitch* West) neere 50 miles, and the breadth (from *Wells* to *Thetford*) 30, making the circumference to containe much vpon 242 miles. It is diuided into 32 Hundreds, and these are subdivided into 660 Parish-Churches. Besides, many good Harbours and diuers faire Riuer and Streames interlace this County, which are passable by 15 Bridges. And for traffique of merchandize and other commodities, it is conveniently fitted with 30 Market Townes, whereof the fairest is the famous Citie of *Norwich*, which though like others it hath tasted varietie of fortunes, yet is it now for beauty and abilitie counted the best next *LONDON* of any other City in *England*, being delectably placed in a pleasant bottome vpon the Riuer *Hierus*, and yet vpon the ascent of an hill, which on the East side mounts so high, as to overlooke the whole Citie. In King *Stephens* time it was made a Corporation; *Edward* the first fortified it with a wall, except on that side next the Riuer; and *Henry* the fourth made it a County, and changed the government from foure Bailiffes to a Maior; and though many of the ancient Churches and Religious Houses lie now wasted in their owne ruines, yet still doth it containe about 30 Parishes. On the East side of this County is situate *Yarmouth*, at the mouth of the Riuer *Tere*, from whence it hath the name; and by King *Henry* the Third was walled and made a Corporation. It is strongly built, and well fortified, being the chiefe of the Cinque-ports, where about September euery yeere is great fishing for Herrings, as the like is not in any part of *Europe*, whereby the Towne for the present, and the whole Land (with diuers other) all the yeere after is both enriched and refreshed. Another remarkable Towne in this Shire is *LYN*, which was made a Corporation by King *Iohn*, who gaue them a Cup, which still remaineth there as a memorable testimonie of his bounty: but afterwards by King *Henry* the third was their Charter enlarged, and their Bailiffe altered to a Maior, by whom (with Assistants of twelue Aldermen and a Recorder) it is at this day gouerned. About *Thetford* in this County, by *Hunger* and *Hubba* the *Danes* was good King *Edmund* ouerthrowne, who afterwards was martyred at *S. Edmunds Bury*. By reason of this Shires so neere neighbouring to the Seas, the Aire is somewhat sharpe and piercing. The Eleuation of the Pole being there 52.46. $\frac{1}{2}$. and the Longitude 25.57. The Soile as in some places it is leane and barren, so is it in other parts fat and fruitfull, but in all places very commodious to the Inhabitants, for *Marshall* is excellent good for Pasture, and *Flegg* for Corne. The West part along the Coast is their Champion, and yeeldeth great store of Sheepe, Corne, and Conies: and that part more within Land (being more wooddie) is their Woodland, which is so stored with grasse, as it furnisheth the Country with plenty of Cattell, and yet is not wanting for Corne or Sheepe. And generally all ouer doth it abound both for Fish and Fowle, with many other vsfull commodities.



Lincolne-shire.

THis Shire was called by the *Saxons* *Lincollfyre*, by the *Normans* *Nicolshire*, and now vulgarly *Lincolne-shire*. It is a very large County, extending in length (from *Barton* vpon *Humber* in the North, to *Stanford* on the Riuer *Nyne* in the South) 55 miles, and in bredth (from *Newton* in the West to *Winthorpe* in the East) 35 miles, the whole circuit being about 180 miles. It is enuironed on the North with the Riuer *Humber*, on the East with the German Sea; on the South it butteth on the Counties of *Northampton* and *Cambridge*, and on the West vpon *Nottingham* and *Yorke-shires*. It is diuided into three principall parts, *Lindsey*, *Kesteven*, and *Holland*; *Lindsey* containing 17 Hundreds, *Kesteven* 11, and *Holland* 3, in all 31 Hundreds, wherein are 630 Parish-Churches. This Shire hath also in it nine Riuers, and fifteene Bridges: and though on the East and South sides of it (by reason of the Fennes) the Aire is somewhat foggie, yet is it temperate. And it is eleuated to the height of 53 degrees. This County is somewhat vn safe for Trauellers, for the Sands and Salt waters which in many places make incursions into the Land. It is traded with 31 Market Townes, whereof the Citie of *Lincolne* (the denomination of the County) is the chiefe. The antiquitie of the Citie appeareth as well by the still remaining ruines, as by the ancient Records. In one whereof is read, that this Citie had in it 1007 Mansions, 900 Burgeffes, and 12 Lage-men. In the *Normans* time it was the most populous of any City of *England*, and in it did King *Edward 3* ordaine his staple for the mart of Woolls, Leather, and Lead; in whose raigne it was adorned with 50 Parish-Churches, but now (besides the Chathedrall) it hath but 15. It is gouerned with a Maior, 2 Sheriffes, 12 Aldermen, and a Recorder. It is seated in a hill, and hath for Longitude 23. 48. and for Latitude 53. 17. This County towards the North and West is very pleasant, rich, and fertile, both for Arable, Pasture, and Medow; and on the South and East it excells all other parts of this Realme for plentie of Fish and Fowle. Learned *M. Camden* reports, that at *Harlaxton* in this Shire (in the time of King *Henry* the Eighth) was plowed vp a Brazen Vessel, wherein was an Helmet of gold of a very ancient fashion, beset with many pretious stones. This shire hath heretofore beene adorned with many Religious Houses, which are now conuerted to ruines. And the chiefe commodities of this County are Cattell, Corne, Fish, Fowle, Alabaster, and Flax.



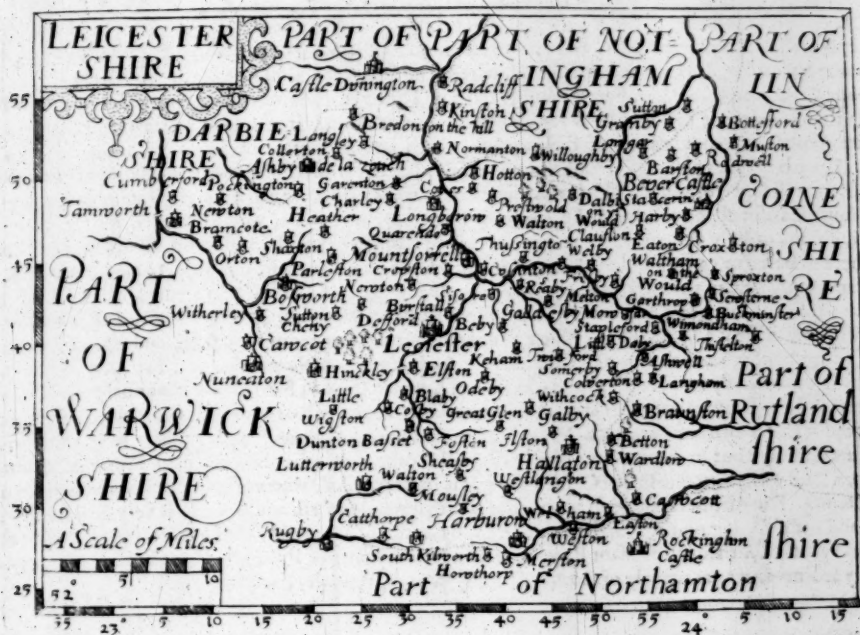
Rutland-shire.

His *Rutland-shire*, which (as some hold) beares the name from one *Rut*, that rod about the whole Shire in one day; but others affirme it was first so called by the old *English Saxons*, for the rednesse of the earth, seeing the word *Rut* or *Ræt* in their language, is as much as *red* in ours; and for that the naturall soyle is indeede so red, that it often colours the wooll of the sheepe into a reddish die. It is the least of all the rest of the Shires in *England*, which on the East and South by the River *Weland* is diuided from *Northampton-shire*, the West side being bordered vpon by *Leicester-shire*, and the North by *Lincolne-shire*. It containes in length (from *Culdeor* South on the River *Ey*, to the farthest part North at a little Towne called *Thistleton*) not altogether a dozen miles; and from *Timwell* in the East to *Wissenden* West (which is the broadest part) neere vnto nine miles; so as the whole County is much about forty miles compasse. It is diuided into 5 Hundreds, v. z. *East, Alltoe, Okeham, Wragge, and Martinsey*; and these are subdiuided into but 48 Parishes. There are foure Parkes in this County, and but two Market Townes for commerce of commodities; which causeth the Inhabitants (for their better aduantage) to trauell to others in the Shires next adioyning: but of the two, *Okeham* is the best and fairest, which stands not farre from *Burley*; that famous and stately house of the right honourable the Lord *Harrington*, who in this Lordship of *Okeham* had such an extraordinary Royaltie, that if any Noble man came at any time within the precinct of it, he was to forfeet an homage horse-shoode from the Steed whereon he rode, or else to redeeme it at a price in money: and for a true confirmation thereof, a man may see many horse-shoos fastened on the doore of the Shire-Hall, whereof some are large and of ancient fashion. The Towne is large, and the Church faire. And here also hath beene a Castle of defence, which seemes by the ruines to haue beene of great strength. The Elevation of the Pole is here 52. 45. and the Longitude 23. 48. King *Edward* the Confessor gaue this County to *Eva* his Queene, and after her death to the Monasterie at *Westminster*: but *William* the Conqueror cancelled it, and bestowed the lands vpon others. The *Coritani* (according to *Ptolemy*) were the ancient Inhabitants of this County, which for aire and health is as good, pleasant and delightful, as any other place of the Land; and (for the quantitie) hath as fertile a Soile, which for tillage may compare with the best. Woods are here good store, and both hills and pleasant bottomes watered with many fresh Springs, are not wanting, which bring forth abundance of Corne, and with flocks of sheepe and herds of Neat are plentifully stored.



Leicester-shire.

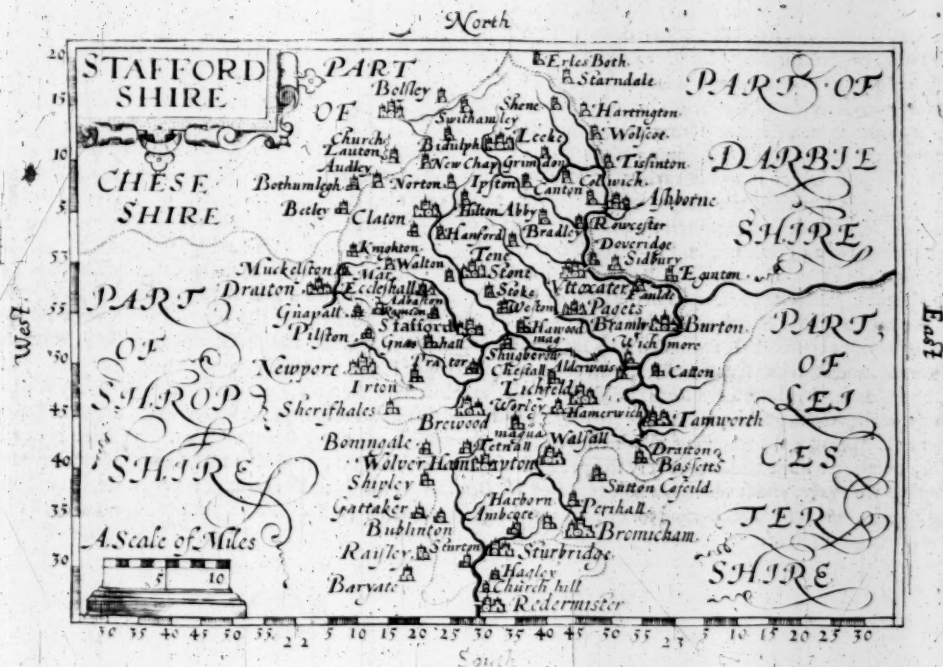
THIS Shire for the bounds hath *Lincolne* and *Rusland-shires* on the East, and on the West the way called *Watling-street* diuides it from *Warwicke-shire*; *Nottingham-shire* imbordereth on the North, and *Northampton-shire* on the South. It is neere as broad as long; for the full length in her greatest Longitude (from East to West) is not altogether thirty miles, and the bredth (from North to South) is twenty foure, which makes the whole circumference much vpon 196 miles. The diuision of it is into six Hundreds, namely, *Sparkingho*, *Franoland*, *Goodlaxton*, *Gartrey*, *East Goscote*, and *West Goscote*, which doe containe in them 200 Parish-Churches. This Shire is watered but with one Riuer of note, (besides small brookes) namely *Stowre*, yet hath ten Bridges; and in it are also contained two Forests, and fifteene Parkes. A dosen of Market Townes are here and there dispersed in this County, for the Inhabitants traffique and commerce, whereof the chiefe is the Shire-Towne *Leicester*, which (as our old Histories record) in ancient times was called *Legecestria*, and by *Ninnis*, *Cuer-Lorion*, being built 844 yeeres before the birth of our Saviour, by King *Leir*, who there erected the Temple of *Ianus*, and in it placed a *Flamine*, and after (as it is recorded) was therein himselfe interred. But long after this did *Ethelred* the King of the *Mercians* make it an Episcopall See, wherein he made *Sexwulph* the first Bishop. But in procelle of time, the Bishopricke being thence transfused, and the Towne brought to a low ebbe, *Edelfred* repaired and fortified it with a strong wall, whereof there is now no memoriall but by some of the old ruines; for *Henry* the second both vtterly rased the Castle, and fired the Towne. It is situate on the Riuer *Stowre*, neere the very midd of the Shire. And the Eleuation of the Pole is there 52. 41. and the Longitude 23. 32. In the yeere 1485 the 22 day of August, neere *Market Bosworth*, was King *Richard* the Third slaine, with 4000 men, in a battell fought by King *Henry* the seuenth, who thereby happily ended the long and wofull contention betwene the two Houses of *Yorke* and *Lancaster*: and the Vsurpers body despightfully mangled, laid naked on a horse backe, and so carried to *Leicester*, and was there buried in the *Gray Friars*. The Aire in this County is milde, pleasant, and healthfull: The Soile towards the South and East (which is most Champion) is not so wooddie as the North, (where *Pit-cole* for fuell is gotten in abundance) yeeldeth great store of Corne: So as the chiefe commodities here are *Cattell*, *Corne*, and *Pit-cole*. And yet for other necessities, they are nothing wanting.



Stafford-shire.



This County, which wee call *Stafford-shire*, was so called also, by the *Englsh Saxons*, and is inclosed on the East with the Rivers of *Dove* and *Trent*, which diuide it from *Darby-shire*; and on the West with *Shroffshire*: *Cheshire* and *Darby-shires* confine it on the North, and *Warwicke* and *Worcester-shires* on the South. The length is measured (from North to South) 44 miles, and the bredth (from East to West) 27, making the whole circumference to containe 140 miles. It is diuided into five Hundreds, and they are subdiuided into 130 Parishes. There is in it also one Citie, one Chafe, one Forrest, and 38 Parkes. Thirteene Riueri doe irrigate this County, which haue ouer them nineteene Bridges. And for commerce and traffique, it is traded in thirteene Market Townes, whereof *Stafford* the Shire-Towne is accounted one of the chiefeft, which was anciently called *Bethune*, from the holy Hermite *Berlin*, that here lued. It hath in times past on the East and South sides beene fortified both with a Wall and Trench, and on the opposite sides had a strange defence of water, which now by time is transformed into faire and pleasant meadows. Foure Gates (according to the foure Cardinall points) doe make way for passage into this Towne, which is seated on the North side of the Riuer *Sone*, and is ciuilly and orderly gouerned by two yeerely elected Bailiffes out of the Common Councell, consisting of 21 Assistants. The Pole is here eleuated to 52. 53. and the Longitude 22. 29. In this Shire also is seated *Lichfield*, which is both of greater antiquitie, and faire more famous than *Stafford*; and which by *Beda* was called *Licedfeld*, signifying a field of dead carkasses, which (as some hold) was so termed of a great number of Saints there slaine by *Dioclesian*. In this Citie did *Offa* a King of *Northumbria* build a Church, and made it a Bishops See, which afterwards was by meanes of King *Offa*, and *Adrian* the Pope, aduanced to the dignitie of an Archbishopricke: and in this Church were the bodies of *Wolphe* and *Cered*, two *Mercian* Kings, interred. This Citie at this day is gouerned by two Bailiffes, and one Sherriffe, which from 24 Burzesses are annually elected. By *Ptolemy*, the ancient Inhabitants of this County were the *Coruanii*, but afterwards it became part of the *Mercian Saxons* possession, whose Kings palace was then seated at the Towne of *Tamworth*. Many famous and faire Religious Houses; that a long time flourished, haue beene raised vp in this County; but in continuance of time (as well as others in other Shires) haue beene rased downe and buried in their owne ruines. And with thirteene strong Castles also was it once guarded, whereof now but few remaine so much as for an ornament to the County. The Aire here (though toward the North somewhat fresh and sharpe) is very healthfull; and the Soile on the South faire and fruitfull, but on the North more barren, by reason of Moores and Hills there seated: yet is the middle both well woodded, and watered with many pleasant Riueri, yeelding great plenty of Fish, as well as the whole County doth of Flesh, and other necessary commodities, as namely of Corne, Cattell, Woods, Pit-cole, Iron, and Alabafter.



Darby-shire.



Darby-shire (which the old Saxons called *Deorbyrshire*) is on the East inclosed with *Nottingham-shire*, on the South with *Leicester-shire*, on the West with *Stafford-shire*, and with *York-shire* on the North, the River *Derwent* (as it were) diuiding it, falleth into *Trent*, which ouerthwarteth the South point of the Shire. The East and South parts are very fruitfull, hauing many Parkes in them; but the West (called the *Peake*) which is hillie, stonie, and craggie, is more barren, yet hath it much Lead, Iron, and Coles, and is very good for the keeping of sheepe. On the West side of *Derwent* is seated *Darby* the chiefest Towne of the Shire, which by the *Danes* was called *Deoraby*, of the River *Derwent*, contracted from *Derwentby*, as ancient *Aibehward* records. This Towne is of a reasonable bignesse,

hauing good trade and resort vnto it; the River hauing a beautifull stone Bridge ouer it in the North-East of the Towne, whereupon was erected a faire Chapell, which is now decaying, besides which there are five Churches in the Towne, the greatest whereof (called *All-Hallows*) is famous both for the height of the Tower, and the excellencie of the workmanship. And close by it the Countesse of *Shrewsbury* hath founded an Hospitall for the maintenance of eight men and foure women. This Towne is gouerned with two Bailiffes, chosen out of 24 brethren, and as many Burgesse, and a Towne-Clarke: The Elevation of the Pole being there 55. 5. and the Longitude 13. 7. This was the Rendezuous for the *Danes*, till *Ethelfleda* the *Mercian* Lady by surprising and slaughtering of them, became Mistresse of it. And in the time of King *Edward* the Confessor it had 143 Burgesse. This Shire is in forme of a Triangle, the length (from North to South) containing 38 miles, and the breadth in the broadest part neere 29 miles, the circumference being about 130 miles. It is diuided into six Hundreds, wherein are 106 Parish-Churches. It hath commerce with eight Market Townes, and hath had seuen Castles, with eight foundations of Religious Houses and Monasteries. It hath store of Woods, Cartell, and Corne, with Mines of Lead, Millstone, Cole, and Subium. At a place called *Buxtons*, in eight yards compass arise nine Springs, eight warme, and one cold, neere which also is another hot Spring from a Well called *S. Anne of Buxtons*, and close by it another cold Spring; the waters of all which are reported to performe many strange Cures. Not farre hence is a place called *Elden Hole*, being of a huge wideness, very steepe, and of a wonderfull depth. And about seuen miles from it is an old Castle, called *The castle in the Peake*, vnder which is a hole termed *The Devils Arse*, which in the entrance is very wide, hauing many turnings and retiring roomes in it, and is accounted for one of our English wonders. In *Peake Forest* neere *Buxtons* is a Well which ebberh and floweth foure times an houre.



Nottingham-shire.

Nottingham-shire is so called from Nottingham the chiefe Towne, and it is bounded on the North and North-west with the County of York, on the East with Lincoln-shire, the South side being confined with Leiceſter-shire, and with Darby-shire on the West. It is extended from Fimingly North to Steanſord in the South, 38 miles, and from Teneſſall West to Beeſthorpe Eaſt, about 20 miles, the whole compaſſe being 110 miles. This Shire is diuided into two parts, called by the Inhabitants *The Sand* and *The Clay*; and theſe are ſubdiuided into eight Wapentacks, which containe in them 168 Pariſh-Churches. This County is traffiqued with eight Market Townes for commerce, whereof the beſt and greateſt is Nottingham, which is moſt pleaſantly ſituated on a high hill: adorned with ſtately buildings, and for many faire ſtreets much excellling diuers other greater Cities. The Market-place is large and faire. Many Caves and Vaulcs are in the Towne, which are hewen out of the Rocke, but the moſt famous of them are thoſe vnder the Caſtle, whereof one hath the ſtory of Chriſts paſſion engrauen on the walls by David the Second King of Scots, being there held priſoner; and another wherein Lord Mortimer was ſurpriſed by King Edward the Third, for which cauſe it is ſtill called *Mortimers Hole*. The Roomes and Staires of theſe are made out of the Rock, the Caſtle it ſelfe being ſtrong. King Edward ſurnamed the Elder compaſſed this Towne with a Wall, whereof but a little doth now remaine, the reſt being turned to ruines. The compaſſe of this Towne (according to *M. Speed*) is 2120 paſes. And it is gouerned by a Maior, two Sheriſſes, two Chamberlaines, and ſix Aldermen: The Pole being there eleuated 52. 58. and Longitude 23. 35. This County is pleaſant, and whoſome for Aire, Clayie, Sandie, and rich for Soile; very fruitfull both for Corne and Graſſe, being plentifully ſtored with Wood, Water, and Cole. In this Shire groweth a Stone, which being not ſo hard as *Alabaſter*, maketh a Plafter harder than *Plafter of Paris*, wherewith they uſe to ſtoope their vpper roomes. At a place neere *Workſopp* in this Shire is planted much and very good Liquorice. And at *Stoke* neere *Newarke* was fought a great Battell by *Iohn de la Poole* in the reigne of King Henry the Seueneth. This County hath 5 Riuers interfluent to water and fertilize it, of which *Trent* is the greateſt. It hath alſo 17 Bridges, and 18 Parkes.



Yorke-shire.



His is the greatest County in all this Land, and by the Saxons was called *Esstrof-ſyre*, and *Eboracſyre*, but now by vs *Yorke-shire*, which is bounded on the East with the German Seas, on the West with the Counties of *Westmerland* and *Lancaſhire*, on the South with *Cheshire*, *Darby*, *Nottingham*, and *Lincolne ſhires*; and on the North it is parted by the River *Tees* from the Biſhopricke of *Durham*. In length (from *Harthill* in the South to the beginning of *Tees* in the North) is contained about 70 miles, and the breadth (from *Fleſborough* head to *Horn* Caſtle on the River *Lan*) 80, making the whole compaſſe much vpon 308 miles. It is diuided into three parts, called *Ridings*, viz. the *East*, *West*, and *North Ridings*; and they are ſubdiuided into Hundreds, whereof the *weſt Riding* containes ten, the *North Riding* twelue, and the *East Riding* ſiue, making in all 27 Hundreds, which containe in them 563 Pariſh-Churches, beſides very many Chapels of eaſe. It is interlaced with 36 Riuer, ouer which a man may paſſe by 62 Bridges. It hath but one Citie, and one Biſhops See, but is delighted with foure Chaſes, eight Foreſts, and 72 Parkes. It hath bene fortified with ſiſteene ſtrong Caſſes, and for traffique and commerce amongst the Inhabitants is traded with 45 Market Townes, whereof the moſt famous is the ancient and renowned Citie of *Yorke*, which by *Ptolemy* was called *Brigantium*, and by the Brittaines *Caer Eſſrock*. It is accounted the ſecond Citie of *England*, and for beautie of building, and other ornaments, it farre ſurpaſſeth all others in the County. It is large, faire, rich, and populous, being made a Metropolitan Citie by *Honorius*, where King *Henry* the Eiſtht eſta bliſhed a Counſell, conſiſting of a Lord Preſident, with diuers Counſellors at the Kings pleaſure, and a Secretary to heare and determine all cauſes in thoſe Northerne parts. In this Citie both liued and died the Emperour *Seuerus*, whoſe aſhes were afterwards carried to *Rome*, and there ſhrined. Here alſo (we reade) was ſometime ſeated a Temple dedicated to the Goddeſſe *Bellona*. And here died the Emperour *Conſtantiuſ*, ſurnamed *Chloruſ*, who in this citie kept his royall Court. It was moſt famous alſo for a long time, in the Engliſh Saxons time, till the *Danes* ſuppreſſed and deſtroyed it, yer afterwards it recovered it ſelfe, and by the Citizens was ſtrengthened with a Wall, adorned and fortified with Towers and Bulwarkes, and is now gouerned by a Lord Maior, 12 Aldermen, diuers Chamberlaines, and a Recorder. The latitude being here 54.3. and the longitude 23.48. Diuers other faire, famous, and remarkable Townes are ſeated in this Prouince, as *Richmond*, *Hul*, *Halifax*, and many others, whereof I am abridged particularly to diſcourſe, by the ſtraightneſſe of my limits; As alſo am I reſtrained from relating of many ſtrange rarities, wherewith this County is plentifully ſtoed; as the dropping Well at *Knaſborough*, the *Giggelwicke* Springs, *Saint Wilfrids* Needle, *Conſtantiuſ* his Lamp, the Mountaine *Cocles*, and Sea-fiſh ſtones; as alſo thoſe at *Whitby*, which are formed like wreathed Serpents; of all which I muſt referre you to our former and moſt famous Hiſtoriographers, Mr. *Camden*, Mr. *Speed*, and others. With very many Abbies, Monaſteries, and Religious houſes, hath this Shire bene adorned, which are now ſubuerbed and vtterly decayed. The Aire here, though it be more ſharp and frigid than in other parts of the land, yet is it very healthfull; and the Soile, though in ſome places ſterile and barren, yet in others, fat, rich and fruitfull; ſo as what is deſectiue in one part, is ſupplied by another, the whole Continent feeling no want, becauſe it is generally ſufficiently ſtoed with Corne, Cattell, Fiſh, Fowle, and hath many mines of Copper, Lead, Cole, Stone, Allome, Coperalle, and other rich commodities.



The Bishopricke of Durham.



His Province, which wee call *The Bishopricke of Durham*, is confined on the East by the German Seas, and on the West is parted from *Cumberland*, *Westmoreland*, and *Stainefmore*, by the Riuer *Tees*: *Yorke-shire* bounds it on the South, and *Northumberland* on the North. It is shap'd in the fashion of an Hoiccedes Triangle, hauing two sides containing much vpon thirty miles a peece, and that by the Sea side but about 23 or 24, making the whole circumference to containe neere to 103 miles, within which compasse are disperfed 118 Parish-Churches. In this Shire are interfluent eleuen Riuers, which are passable by twenty Bridges: and because the quantitie of the County is but small, there is in it but one Citie, one Bishopricke, and but six Market Townes, whereof the chiefeft is the ancient Citie of *Durham*, which was called by the Saxons *Dun-holm*, of the word *Dun* signifying an Hill, and *Holme* an Island; for indeed it is almost circularly ingirt with the Riuer of *Weere*. It was at first erected (as wee haue it by tradition) by the Monkes of *Lyndesferne*, who by Oracle were commanded to doe it. And here did *William* the Conquerour vpon an high hill raise a strong and stately Castle; and not only so, but made it a County Palatine, whereof the Bishops in times past haue had the Royalties of Princes. And here was the Tombe of *S. Cuthbert*, whereto King *Egfrid*, *Ælfrid*, *Athelstane*, and others of our English Kings, came in Pilgrimage (and some of them bare-footed) in humble deuotion, and to giue great gifts and offerings to the Church, in the West part whereof is still remaining the Marble monument of the Reuerend *Beda*, that learned Monke of *Wormouth*. And here is the Pole, eleuated 54. 56. $\frac{1}{2}$. and the Longitude 22. 54. The Inhabitants of this County in *Ptolemies* time, were the *Brigantes*, whom the *Romans* conquered, and after that, by the Saxons was this Shire made a part of the Kingdome of *Northumberland*, which the *Danes* subdued, and was lastly overcome and possessed by the *Normans*. About a mile from *Darlington* in this County, haue I seene 3 round Ponds of water, which the Country people call *Hell-Kettles*, which are in forme circular, the water alwayes temperately warme, and (as they say) neuer seene to be frozen. They likewise affirme them to be bottomelesse, because by no meanes they could euer be sounded. But of their strange beginning, with other particulars of them, as also of the salt Stones in the Riuer *Weere* at *Batterby* (considering the strictnesse of my bounds) I must referre you to the learned Workes of our euer famous Antiquarie *M. Camden*. With diuers rich Religious Houses hath this County bene beautified, which are now defaced and subuerted; and with seuen strong Castles was it fortified, *sed tempus edax rerum*. The Aire is here sharpe, subtile, and healthfull; and Soile on the East side well stored with Pastures and Arable Grounds, but moorish on the South: and though other parts be more barren, yet are they so well stored with Cole-pits, that besides their owne abundant expence, they vent so much to other parts, as is a constant annuall and exceeding great benefit to the Inhabitants.



Northumberland.



His County was called by the *English Saxons* *North-Humberland*, and is bounded on the South with the Bishopricke of *Durham*, on the North with *Scotland*, on the West with part of *Scotland* and part of *Cumberland*, and on the East with the German Sea. It is fashioned in a triangular forme, contain; from the South-East to the South-west, about 40 miles; and from the South-west to the North point, much vpon 60 miles; from whence to *Willowby* by the Sea Coast, 45 miles; whereby the whole circumference amounts to the measure of 145 miles or thereabouts. In which circuit are included but 46 Parish-Churches. Many Rivers, ouer which a man may passe by 16 Bridges. It hath one Forest in it, and eight Parkes. And for trade and traffique amongst the Inhabitants, there are dispersed in this County but five Market Townes, whereof the principall is *Newcastle upon Tyne*, so called of a new Castle build there by *Robert* the sonne of *William* the Conquerour: but before the Conquest it was called *Monk-Chester*, as a strong defence for Monkes that it seemes were resident there. It is now rich and famous, and very populous by reason of the plentifull vent of Sea-Coles, which from thence are vttered in farre more abundance than from any other part or place in *England* besides. *Richard* the Second granted, that a Sword should be carried before the Maior; and *Henry* the Sixth made it a County within it selfe. It hath a strong wall, with eight Gates for entrance about it, and halfe so many Churches within it. And from thence, or rather from *Tyre Mouth*, beginneth that famous wall called *The Pils wall*, built first of earth, but afterwards of stone by the *Romans*, containing (as *Be la faith*) eight foot in bredth, and twelue foot in height, reaching in length from the German Seas East to the Irish Seas West, cutting thorow the County of *Cumberland*, as well as this Prouince. Another chiefe Towne here is *Barnesby*, the furthest and strongest of all this Land of *England*. It is situate on the Sea side; and on the North of the Riuer *Tweede*, betwene *England* and *Scotland*, and hath many times bene tossed by Fortune, sometimes to the subiection of the *Scots*; and then againe to the *English*, till *Edward* the Fourth time; who with his Successors from time to time so fortified it, as it hath euer since remuned in the possession of the *English*. The Pole being there eleuated 55. 51. 1/2 and the Longitude 13. 0. In *Ptolemies* time the *Quadii* were the Inhabitants of this County, which then were, since haue bene, and still are a stout, hardy, and warlike people, being very excellent Light Horse-men, as they haue often tried themselves in their many Battells and Encounters betwene them and the *Scots*. Very many remarkable and notable Roman Antiquities, as old decayed Altars, Inscrptions, Coynes, &c. haue bene and yet are found as well along the Wall, as in other places of this County. The Aire here, as well as in other Northerne parts, is sharpe, cold, and piercing; The Soile sterile and barren, except in those places next the Sea, and on the banks of the Riuer *Tyne*. Their chiefeest commodities being Sea-Cole, wherewith they not only profit and pleasure themselves, but doe the like to others abundantly, by transporting them to other remote places.



Cumberland.



His County of *Cumberland*, which is situate in the North-west part of this Realme, and is the furthest part of the Land on that point, was named *Cumber* of those *Britains* that called themselves *Cumbri* and *Cambri*. It is bordered vpon on the North side with *Northumberland* and part of *Scotland*, on the South with part of *Lancashire*, on the East with *Westmorland*, and on the West with the Irish Sea. It is long and narrow, containing in length 54 miles, and at the broadest is not much about 30. And though (as other Shires bordering on *Scotland* are) it is exempted from Subsidie, and therefore wants the diuision of Hundreds, yet are there (besides Chapels of ease) 58 Parish Churches contained in it: and also there are 20 Riuer in it, hauing 33 Bridges. There is one Citie, one Bishopricke, three Forests, and eight Parkes. And for traffique and commerce amongst men, there are dispersed in it nine Market Townes, whereof the ancient Citie of *Carlisle* is the principall, which by the *Romans* was called *Luguualium*, by *Ptolemie* *Leucopibia*, and by *Ninius* *Cacr-Lualid*. It is situate very commodiously and delectably, betwene the Riuer of *Edin*, *Petterell*, and *Cond*. It was strong, faire and famous, in the time of the *Romans*, but was ruined by the *Scots* and *Picts* after their departure, till *Northumberland*s King *Egfrid* reedified and inclosed it in a wall. And afterwards, when againe the *Danes* had destroyed it, King *William Rufus* built the Castle and restored it, so as now (besides the naturall helps of the Riuer which encompass three parts of it) it is fortified with a strong stone wall, a Castle, and a Citadell, betwene which almost in the midst stands the Cathedrall Church. The Elevation of the Pole being there 55. 18. and the Longitude 21. 41. In *Ptolemies* time the *Brigantes* were the ancient Inhabitants of this County, but afterwards those *Britains* that were called *Cumbri* possessed it. And when the *Danes* had sore troubled the *Saxons*, this County of *Cumberland* was accounted a Kingdome, of it selfe, which King *Stephen* (in his time) gaue to the King of *Scots*; but *Henry* the Second both claimed and got it againe from that *Crowne*. In this Shire there haue bene and still are found many Antiquities of the *Romans*, whose furthest bouds are accounted no further than this County, as witnesse the tract of that admirable wall called *The Picts wall*, which was built by *Seuerus*, and whereof diuers parts doe yet remaine, where (as also in diuers other places) are still remaining the ruines of Altars, and Inscriptions of seuerall Colonies and Captaines, &c. At *Salkelds* in this County are 77 stones, containing ten foot in height aboue ground, and one of them fiftene, which are commonly called *Long Meg*, and *her Daughters*, but were erected there for the memoriall of a victorie there obtained. This Prouince as it hath bene strengthened with 15 strong Castles; so hath it bene beautified with many faire Religious Houses, which by King *Henry* the Eighth were vicerly suppressed. The Aire (though bitter and sharpe) is yet healthfull. The South part of the County is hillie; the midst leuell, and more populous, and yeeldeth sufficient prouision for the Inhabitants; but the North is hillie, wilde and desolate. The commodities here are Corne, Grass, Sheep, Cattell, Fish, and Fowle, with blacke Lead and mines of Copper, which yeeld much profit to the Countrey.



Westmorland.

THis County, called in Latine *Westmerlandia*, and *Westmaria*, we in English call *Westmorland*, for the store of Moores and Hills contained in it. It is bordered vpon on the East side by *Yorke-shire* and *The Bishopricke of Durham*, on the West and North sides with the County of *Cumberland*, and *Lancashire* on the South. It extendeth from *Kirkland* North to *Burton* South, 30 miles, and stretcheth in widenesse (from *Eden* East to *Dunbalse* stones in the West) 24 miles, making the measure of the whole circuit much vpon 112 miles; in which compassse are contained 26 Parish-Churches. This Shire is well watered with eight Riuer, which haue fiteene Bridges ouer them. And in it also are two Forests, and nineteene Parks. And for intercourse of people for commerce and traffique, there are but foure Market Townes, whereof that of the greatest account is *Kendale*, which is also called *Kirkby Kendale*, being situate on the Riuer *Can*, and for that cause so called. It is famous for the making of woollen clothes, whereby it is become very popu'lous and very wealthy, hauing good vtterance for them thorow all the other parts of this Land. It is civilly and orderly gouerned by an Alderman annually elected out of his twelue brethren, which are his Assistants, and are knowne from others by their Purple Habits; with whom is ioyned a Recorder, and two Chamberlaines. The Pole is here eleuated 54. 40. and the Longitude 21. 53. The *Brigantes* were also the ancient Inhabitants of this County, where at a place called *Apleby* are often found peeces of antique Coyne, and some Inscriptions shewing that the *Aurelian Maures* kept there a station in the time of the *Romans*. The Records of this County speake but of one Monasterie founded in it, which was built by *Thomas* the sonne of *Gospatrik*, neere to the Riuer *Loder*, where is a Spring that diuers times a day both ebbs and flowes. And there are also a row of stones set equidistant reaching a mile in fashion of *Piramides*, wherof some of them are nine, and some thirteene or fourteene foot high, which are supposed to be the memorable monument of some notable act performed in that place. In the Riuer *Can* neere *Kendale* are two such violent Water-falls, where in the descent it makes such a noise, that the Inhabitants adioyning can thereby fore-iudge of the weather; for if that which is North from them sound cleare and loud, they expect faire weather: but if that on the South doe so, they then looke for and finde the contrary. The Aire is cold and sharpe, but very healthfull; and the Soile also but barren and vnfruitfull. Their chieffest commodities consist vpon Cloathing.



Lancashire.



This in the Saxon language was called *Lancasderſcyre*, which we call *Lanc. ſhire*, and *The County Palatine of Lancaſter*. It is bounded on the Eaſt with *Darby-ſhire*, on the Weſt with the *Iriſh Seas*: *Cheſhire* confines it on the South, and *Westmorland, Camberland,* and *Yorke-ſhire*, border on the North. The full length of it is (from *Hallwood* South to *Brashey* North) 57 miles, and the wideſſe (betweene *Denton* Eaſt and *Ferby* neere *Almſouth* Weſt) 31 miles, making the meaſure of the whole compaſſe to containe about 170 miles. The diuiſion is into ſix Hundreds, containing (beſides many Chapels of eaſe) 36 Pariſhes, ſo large and populous, as the like are not in any other part of the Land. In this County are interſperſed 33 Riuers, where ouer a man may paſſe by 24 Bridges; and one Chaſe, and 30 Parkes. And for concourſe of people for trade and traffique, in this Shire are ſeated fifteene faire Market Townes, whereof that of greateſt account is the Shire-Towne *Lancaſter*, which is moſt pleaſantly ſituate on the South ſide of the Riuer *Len*, and is adorned with a faire Church, a ſtrong Caſtle, and a ſtately Bridge. Ciuilly and orderly doth a Major, yeerely choſen out of twelve of his Brethren, with the aſſiſtance of two Bailiffes, 24 Burgeſſes, two Chamberlaines, and a Recorder, gouerne this Towne; where the Elevation of the Pole is 54.18. and the Longitude 21. 36. The ancient Inhabitants of this County were alſo the *Briantes*, of whom I haue ſpoken in other former Shires, and whom the Emperour *Claudian* ſubiugated to the *Romans*. But afterwards was this County made part of *Northumberlands* Kingdome, till the *Danes* (and after them the *Normans*) conquered it. In this Shire *Mancheſter* is notable for the Church, Colledge, and Market-place: And *Riblecheſter* (ſometimes the ſeat of the *Romans*) for that it was once held to be the richeſt Towne in all Chriſtendome. Here alſo neere *Furneſſe Fells* is *Wyndermere*, being very deepe, and ten miles in length, accounted for the greateſt ſtanding water in all this Land, and yet is all paved with ſtone in the bottome. This County is alſo famous for the foure *Henries*, viz. the Fourth, Fifth, Sixth, and ſeuenth, which deſcending from *Iohn of Gaunt*, Duke of *Lancaſter*, were all afterwards renowned Kings of *England*. Diuers Caſtles, and foure Religious Houſes, are now ſuppreſſed, that ſo netlines adorned this County. The Aire is here healthfull, though cold and ſearching; And the Soile, though not ſo fertile as in other places, yet produceth large Cattell, good Corne, with Graſſe, Flax, Cole, and almoſt all other neceſſary commodities.



Ches-shire.



His Shire, which we call the County Palatine of *Chester*, was by the Saxons both called and written *Cestenshire*, and is diuided from *Darby & Stafford-shires* on the East, by the Riuer of *Goit*, *Dane*, and *Mercey*, and on the West, by *Dee*, from *Denbygh*. On the North side lies *Lancashire*, and the South is confined with *Flin* and *Shrop-shire*. It containeth in length from East to West 47. miles, and at the broadest betwene North and South 26. which causeth the measure of the whole circumference to contain about 142. miles. This County is diuided into 7. Hūdreds, which conraine in them (besides 38. Chapels of ease) 86. Parish Churches. It hath also in it one Citie, one Bishopricke, and is watered with 9. Riuers, ouer which men doe passe by 19. Bridges. Two Forests and 18. Parkes are also in this Shire. And for traffique and commerce amongst the Inhabitants, there are dispersed in conuenient places 15. Market Townes, the chiefe whereof is the faire and famous Citie of *Chester*, of which the whole Countie carries the name, and was sometimes the strong Fort of *Ostorius*, who was *Claudius* the Emperours Lieu-tenant. It is pleasantly situate on the North side of the Riuer *Dee*, ouer which a faire and strong stone Bridge, built on 8. arches and beaufised: two faire gates at each end: giue passage to the Towne, which is incircled with a high and strong wall, containing (besides seuen Towers and three Posternes) foure faire Gates at the foure Cardinall points of the Compasse. On the North side of this Citie, Earle *Leofric* built the Minister, which by *Hugh* the first *Normaine* Earle of *Chester*, was afterward both repaired and fairely beaufised. And in it (as we haue it by tradition) *Henry* the fourth, Emperour of *Almane*, after he had there allong time led a Hermits life, was interred: and on the South side stands the Castle, incompassed with a circular wall. This Citie was first ruined by the *Northumberland* King *Egfrid*, who there slew 1200. Monkes, and afterwards by the *Danes*, but by *Edelfleda* was both reedified and beaufised. In this Citie King *Edgar* was rowed from *Saint Johns* to his Palace by eight other Kings, who did him homage, and himselfe as Supreme steered the Rielme. And *Henry* the seueneth made it a Countie of it selfe, which is now governed by an annually elected Maior, two Sheriffes, foure and twenty Aldermen, and a Recorder. It hath had in it diuers Religious houles, which time hath now transformed to ruines. The Pole is there eleuated 53. 15. of Latitude, and the Longitude 21. 27. This Shire hath beene fortified with eight other Castles, and as many famous Religious Houses, which were suppressed by King *Henry* the eight. The Aire in this Countie is both pleasant and healthfull; the Soile fat, rich and fruitfull, bringing abundance both of profit and pleasure to the Inhabitants. And for Commodities, it yelds plentiful store of Corne, Cattell, Fowle, Fish, Salt, Mines, Metalls, White-meats, and most of all other necessary and vsfull commodities.



Shropshire.



His Shire by the old Saxons was written and termed *Scirpſſyre*, which at this day we call *Shropſhire*. It is bordered vpon the Eaſt with *Staffordſhire*, on the Weſt with *Deſſebury* and *Montgomery*: *Radnor*, *Hereford*, and *Worceſterſhires* doe bound vpon the South, and the County Palatine of *Cheſter* on the North. From *Wooſerton* South, to *Oue*: neere *Trent* on the North, (which is the full length) it containes 34 miles, and at the broadest (betweene *Tong* in the Eaſt and *Oweſtre Weſt*) 25, making the whole circumference to containe about 124 miles. The diuiſion of this County is ſhared into 15 Hundreds, whoſe ſubdiuiſion into Pariſhes is 170. It is well warbred with 18 Riuer, which haue 13 large Bridges for paſſage. And in this Shire are found 7 Forests, and 27 Parks. In 14 Market Townes haue the Inhabitants commerce and traffique, wherof that of moſt note is the ancient Shire-Towne of *Shrewsbury*, which is both large and wealthy, containing many faire Streets, adorned with beautifull buildings, wherein are many rich and wealthy Inhabitants, who honeſtly attaine thereto, by their trading for the moſt part in Wools, Cloth, and Freefe. It is ſtrongly walled, hauing a Bulwarke deſcending from the Caſtle to the ſide of *Seuerne*, on the Northbanke whereof is the Towne moſt pleaſantly ſituate: and for paſſage, on the Eaſt and Weſt ſides are built two faire Bridges of ſtone, and another entrance on the North, ouer which ſtands the ruinous remainder of the old Caſtle. The gouernment of this Towne is committed to two annually elected Bailiſſes, with 24 Burgeſſes, and 2 Recorder. The height of the Pole is here 512.49. and the Longitude 21.38. This County in times paſt hath bene much troubled with many grievous broiles, which cauſed the Inhabitants to fortiſie themſelues with diuers walled Townes, and 32 ſtrong Caſtles, whereof now moſt of them are vnterly decayed, but that at *Ludlow* was made by King *Henry* the Seuenth the Court of his eldeſt Palace for the Lord Preſident, who with diuers Counſellors, a Secretary, Attorney, Sollicitor, and foure Juſtices of the *Welch* Counties, he appointed in their Termes to plead, heare, and determine of cauſes. Neere *Clune* Caſtle in this Shire is yet remaining the Fort of *Cariallacus* a Prince of the *Silures*, about theyeare of our Lord 53, which was won by *P. Oſorius*, the Roman. In which Towne of *Clune*, amongſt other memorable paſſages, I ſaw a Pardon for one *Iohn Clune* Eſquire, ſeruant to King *Henry* the Eighth, for reſeruatiſon of his name and bloud, who accidentally ſlew one of the Burgeſſes thereof in the Church-yard: which Pardon was granted and ſigned by Pope *Iulian* the ſecond, and was ſhewed to mee by my good friend Maſter *Edward Clune*, the ſonne of *Maurice Clune*, of the ſame Houſe and Familie lineally deſcending. The Aire in this County is both healthfull and pleaſant; the Soile rich and fertile, yielding Wheat, Barly, Peaſe, Iron, and Woods in abundance.



Hereford-shire.



His County (which wee call *Hereford-shire*) was named by the *Britaines* *Eborac*. It is bordered vpon on the North with *Worcester* and *Shrop-shires*, on the South with *Monmouth-shire*; on the East it is diuided from *Gloucester-shire* by *Maluerne Hills*, and the West is bounded by *Brecknock* and *Radnor-shires*. The forme of it is circular, containing in length (from *Maluerne Hills* on the East, to *Michael Church* West) about 26 miles; and in bredth (from *Llan-ythell* South to *Ouer Sapie* North) 24 miles, causing the whole circumference to amount to 102 miles, or thereabouts. It is diuided into 11 Hundreds, and those are subdiuided into 176 Parishes. It containes one Citie, one Bishopricke, thirteene Riuer passable by cleuen Bridges; one Chase, two Forests, and eightene Parks. And *Id. Camden* is of opinion to haue sprung from the ruines of old *Ariconium*, but is delectably seated amongst pleasant Medowes and plentifull Corne-fields, and almost round about encircled with the River of *Wye*, and another on the North side whose name is not knowne. It grew first famous for the supposed sanctitie of King *Ethelbert*, who was there entombed after he had beene murdered by King *Offas* wife, when he came to wooe her daughter; and in honour of him did *Mildred* a petty King of that County build the Cathedrall Church, which afterward was consumed by fire, but reedified by Bishop *Reiuelin*, and the Towne inclosed in a wall, with six Gates, and fiteene Towers: and is ciuilly governed by a Maior (yeerely elected out of 13. Citizens) and his Brethren, whereof foure of the ancientest are Iustices of Peace, and a Recorder. The Latitude being there 51. 7. $\frac{1}{2}$. and the Longitude 21. 50. In this Citie King *Athelstane* (as *Malmesbury* reports) caused the Lords of *Wales* to pay an annuall Tribute (besides Hawkes and Hounds) of twenty pounds of Gold, and 300 pounds of Siluer by weight. The ancient Inhabitants of this County were the *Silures*, a fierce, hardy, and valiant people, as appeares by their nine yeeres opposition to the *Romans*. And afterwards the *Saxons* made this County a part of their *Mercian* Kingdome: and *Sutton* was their Royall Court kept of their great King *Offa*. Before the Conquest this County was accounted with those of *Wales* against *England*; but when it was ioyned to the *English*, with diuers Castles was it fortified against the *Welch*: for wee reade that in times past it hath beene strengthened with 18 strong and faire Castles, most of which are now low buried in the heapes of their owne ruines. Of remarkable things in this Shire, the Spring called *Bone Well*, neere *Richards Castle*, is famous for Fish-bones and no Fish, which though it be cleerely cleansed thereof, will shortly after be furnished afresh with the like. But the great wonder was the admirable motion of *Marley Hill*, containing about 36 acres, within our owne memorie, Anno 1571, which with a great noyse remoued it selfe from its owne place, and went continually for three dayes together, carrying with it sheepe in their coats, hedge-rows and trees, and ouerthrowing *Kinnaston* Chapell, and diuers trees, turning two high waies neere 100 yards from their vsuall Road, and bearing the earth before it the space of 400 yards. With very many Religious Houses hath this Shire beene adorned; but in the time of King *Henry* the Eighth were vtterly ruined, as many others in all other Counties. The Aire is here pleasant, healthfull, and temperate; and the Soile as fertile and fruitfull as any other in *England*, yeelding Corne, Cattell, Wooll, Wheat, and almost all other necessary commodities, for the vse of the Inhabitants.



Radnor-shire.



Radnor-shire, in the *British Sire Maisseuth*. being in forme three square, is on the South side separated from *Brecknok-shire* by the River *Wy*; on the North it bordereth vpon *Montgomery-shire*; on the South-east vpon *Hereford-shire*. The East and South parts of this Shire be farre more fruitfull than the rest. It hath in it two and fiftie Parishes, and three Townes of note, the principall whereof is *Radnor*, in *British Maisseuth*, which in times past was firmly fenced with a wall, but after that *Owen Glendowre* had burnt it, it began to grow to decay. It is probable that this *Maisseuth* or *Radnor*, was that ancient Citie *Magi*, which *Antonine* the Emperour calleth *Magos*, where the Governour of the *Pacensian* Regiment lay in garrison vnder the Lieu-tenant of *Britaine*, in the reigne of *Theodosius* the younger: for Writers of the middle age call the Inhabitants of this coast *Magesete*, and make mention of Earles *Magesetenses*; also the distance, if it be counted from *Gobanninm* or *Abergenenny*, or from *Brangonium*, (i.) *Worcester* differeth not from *Antonines* computation. Three miles Eastward from this Towne lieth *Prestaine*, in *British Lhan Andrew* (i.) *St. Andrews* Church, which of a very little Village, by the names of *Richard Martin*, Bishop of *St. Davids*, is of late years growne to be so great and faire a Market Towne, that it dimmeth the light of *Radnor*. Scarce foure miles from *Prestaine* standeth *Knigh-ton*, a Towne not in it selfe so great as the former, it is called in the *British Trebucl*, in stead of *Trefycland*, of a famous Dirchillyng vnder it, which *Offa*, King of the *Mercians*, caused to be cast from *Dee* mouth to *Wye* mouth, to separate the *Britaines* from his *English-men*. In the South-west of this Countrey lieth a wide wilderness, into which *Vortigern* (whose memory the *Britaines* may wish damned) withdrew himselfe, when he had called the *Saxons* into this Land, and in horrible incest married his owne daughter; and here was he, with his Citie *Treghortigern*, burnt with fire from heaven. And not farre from the place where this *Vortigern*, the last absolute Monarch of the *Britaines*, perished, was *Llewellyn*, the last Prince of *Wales* of the *British* race, slaine by *Roger Franchon*. The *Mortimers*, not long after the Conquest, wonne a great part of this little countrey, and after that they had bene a long time eminent aboue others in these parts, King *Edward* the Third created *Roger Mortimer*, Lord of *Wigmore*, Earle of these *Welsh* limits, or according to the common speech, Earle of *March*.



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Brecknock-shire.

THis Countie of *Brecknock* was called *Brechineau* in the *British* tongue, of one *Brichanius*, a Prince, that as the Inhabitants report, had foure and twentie daughters, and all of them Canonized for Saints. It is bounded on the East with *Monmouth* and *Radnor-shires*: on the West with *Carmarthen* and *Cardigan*: on the South with *Glamorgan*; and the North side by the Riuer *Wye* and *Clarwen*, is diuided from *Radnor*. The length of it from *Istragunles* South to *Llanthel* North is 28. miles, and the extent of the broadest part from *Pentristo* East, to *Llywell* West 20. the whole compasse containing much vpon 102. miles. Into six Hundreds is this Shire seuered, and those are subdiuided into 61. Parishes: with 27. Riuer is it interlaced, ouer which in diuers places are 13. Bridges for passage. And for Traffique and trade amongst the Inhabitants, it is stored but with three Market Townes, namely, *Hay*, *Bealt*, and the Shire Towne *Brecknock*, which is now accounted the principall, though the other two in former times would haue beene preferred. *Hay*, pleasantly seated on *Wye* and *Dulas*, in *Owen Glen-dowrs* rebellion was vtterly ruinated; and *Bealt*, though still in some frequencie, yet is now nothing to what in antique Ages it hath beene; but *Brecknock* at this time is the best, which being pleasantly seated on the Riuer *Vske* and *Howthy*, is fortified with a faire strong wall, that besides ten Towers, hath 3. Gates for entrance, with a stately Castle, situate on the West part of the Towne, and is moreover beautified with diuers faire buildings. It is ciuilly gouerned by two Bayliffes, fiftene Aldermen, two Chamberlaines, two Constables; where the Pole is eleuated 52. 8. and the longitude 21. 11. The Inhabitants of this Countie, that anciendly possessed it, were the *Silures*, who greatly opposed the *Romans*, whereto they were much aduantaged by the huge Mountaines, wherewith the Shire is replenished; one of them neere *Brecknock*, which in *Welsh* they call *Mounch-denny*, is of an vncredible height, in so much as nothing, without it become metalline substance or stone, can be cast from the top of it, but with the aire and wind it will be blowne vp again, and neuer fall to the ground. *Llynswanhan* also, which is neere to *Brecknock*, is also admirable, for there (by report) stood a sumptuous Citie, which suncke downe in an earthquake. And with nine Castles hath this Countie beene accommodated. The Aire being cold, sharpe, and piercing; and the Soile though for the most part hilly, sterill and barren, yet the fresh Riuerets issuing from the Mountaines, make the Valleys so fruitfull, as they yeeld both Corne and Grasse in abundance.




Monmouth-shire.



Or the River *Monnowe* is this Towne *Monmouth* so termed, and from that Towne we call this Countie *Monmouth-shire*: which on the East is bordered vpon by *Glocester-shire*, on the West by *Brecknock* and *Glamorgan-shires*. The South is bounded by the *Seuerne* Sea, and the North by the River *Monnowe*, diuided from *Hereford-shire*. The extent of the greatest measure between North and South, is about twenty foure miles in length, and at the widest between East and West, not aboue nineteen, the whole circumference being much vpon 76. miles. The diuision of it is into six Hundreds, wherein are contained 127. Parish Churches, and with the pleasant streames of fifteene Riuers, passable by fourteene Bridges is it interlaced; besides which, for more delight in this Shire is there one Chace and eight Parks: and for Trade and Traffique of buying and selling, six Market Townes, whereof that of the greatest note, is the ancient Shire Towne of *Monmouth*, which betweene the two Riuers *Wye* and *Monnowe* is very delectably situate: wherein is yet remaining a faire Church and thirteene Gates, besides the Towre vpon the Bridge. But that which was called the Monkes Church, and was in times past most curiously edfied in the East end of the Towne, is now viterly ruined, as well as the Castle on the North, which yet will be euer memorable for the birth of the famous and victorious King *Henry* the Fifth. The government of this Towne is committed to a Maior, two Bayliffes, fifteene common Councillours, and a Towne Clerke. The eleuation of the Pole being there 15. 53. and the Longitude 21. 39. The *Silures* were the ancient Inhabitants of this Countie, who had *Caerwent* for their principall place of abode, where the *British* *St. Tatbue* made an Academie. And at *Caer-Lion* lay the second *Romane* Legion called *Augusta*, whereof yet are found many antique *Romane* testimonies. And here also did the great King *Arthur* keepe his Royall Court, which then was a most magnificent Citie, but is now intombed in the heapes of her owne ruines. And so also are diuers Religious Houses sometime that beautified, and fourteene strong Castles, that sometime fortified this famous Prouince: where the Aire is pleasant and healthfull, and the Soile, (though hilly) yet rich, fruitfull, and full of Woods; yeelding plenty of Corne, Grasse, Cattell, and many other necessary Commodities.



Glamorgan-shire.

 His Province which is called *Glamorgan-shire*, is supposed by some to deriue the name from one *Morgan*, a Prince that possessed it; but others hold, that it hath it from the Abbey *Morgan*, which on the South side of this Shire, neare the Sea, did Earle *William* of *Glocester* build. And it is feuered by the Riuer *Remner* on the East, from the Countie of *Monmouth*, and on the West, by the Riuer *Laghor* from *Caermarden-shire*. The South is inclosed with the *British* Sea, and the North is bounded vpon by *Brecknock*. It contains in length, from East to West, almost forty miles, and in the breadth, from South to North, almost twenty, making the whole compasse to containe 112. miles, which are distinguished into twelue Hundreds, and those are subdiuided into 118. Parishes. This Shire is well watered with sixteene Riuers, and contains for Commerce and Trade six Marker Townes, whereof the chiefeft is *Cardiffe*, which the *Britaines* called *Caerdd*, being pleasantly situated on the East side of the Riuer *Tawe*, and in King *Rufus* time was strengthened with a wall, hauing foure Gates, and a strong Castle built by *Fitz-Haimon*: but afterwards the *Normans* wan it, and *Rufus* made it his Royall Cour. This Towne is Governed by a Maior, annually elected out of twelue Aldermen, who are assisted with as many other Burgeises, a Towne Clerke, and foure Constables. The eleuation of the Pole being there 51.32½. and the Longitude 20.21. And neare to this is the Citie *Landaffe*, where nothing but the Cathedrall Church and Castle is worthy obseruance. *Mynydd-Margan* is a Hill in this County, on the top whereof is a Monument, that hath such strange Characters, that (as the countrey people report and beleue) hee that readeth them shall shortly after die. This Countie in times past hath beene strongly fortified with fise and twentie Castles, whereof the most part are quire consumed to ruines, as are also some Religious Houses, which in former ages did adorne this Countrey. The Aire is cheerefull, pleasant and temperate. And the Soile, though the more North, the more Hilly, yet Southward, is plaine, euem and fruitfull, yeelding to the Inhabitants good store of Corne and Cattell.



Caermarden-shire.



His Countie of *Caermarden* hath the name from the Towne of *Caermarden*, which the ancient *Britaines* called *Caer-Firddin*, and is inuironed on the East with *Brecknock* and *Glamorgan-shire*, on the West with *Pembrook-shire*; on the South with the *British Sea*, and on the North with *Cardigan-shire*. The length of it from point to point, in the longest part, being not aboute five and thirty miles, and the wideness from the broadest part twentie, so as the measure of the whole circumference containes about an hundred and two miles. It is parted into six Hundreds, which are againe diuided into 87. Parishes. It is irriguated with eight and twenty Riuer, which may be passed by sixteene Bridges: and it containeth two Parkes and foure Forests. In six Market Townes haue the Inhabitantes Traffique and Commerce, the chiefe whereof is the Shire Towne *Caermarden*, which in *Ptolomies* time was called *Mariadunum*, and is very delectably situate on the Westerne side of the Riuer *Towy*, which diuideth the whole Shire in the middest; ouer which water is a faire strong built Bridge of stone, for passage to the Towne; wherein vpon a Rocke is seared a large Castle, from whence a wall enuironeth the Towne, where (by report wee haue it) was borne the famous *Welsh* Prophet *Merlin*, being the sonne of an *Incubus* spirit. This Towne hath formerly bin the Exchequer for all South *Wales*. The gouernment wherof is now committed to a Maior (who euer after is a Iustice of Peace) with two Sheriffes and sixteene Burgesses. The Pole being there eleuated 50. 50. & the Latitude 20. 16. The ancient Inhabitants of this Countie, were the *Dimetrie*, yet some thinke they were part of the *Silures*, and that this Shire was after ward the strong Fort of the *Romans*, where lay their Legions, as appeareth by their Coines lately found at *Kilmanlloyd*. Some seuen or eight mile Eastward from *Caermarden* are the ruines of Castle *Carreg* on the top of an high Hill, which is famous for spacious holes and wide Caues that are within it, and also for a Well which ebbes and flowes twice euery foure and twentie houres. The Aire is here pleasant, temperate and healthfull. The Soile not so Hilly, and more fertile than in some adioyning Shires. And for Commodities produceth Corne, Cattell, Grasse, Woods and Pit-coale, with plentie of Fowle and Fish, whereof the Salmon is there caught in very great abundance.

Pembroke-shire.



His Shire which (as learned Mr. *Cambden* reports) was in old books named the Lawfull Countie of *Pembroth*, is bounded on the East side by the County of *Caermarden*, on the West and South by the *Irish* Seas, and on the North with the Riuer *Keach* and *Tyny* is diuided from *Cardigan*. And the length of the Shire from *Cardigan* North, to *St. Gowers* point South, contains 26. miles; and the bredth from *Landeny* East, to *St. Davids* point West, about twenty; whereby the whole compasse is accounted much vpon 93. miles. The diuision of this Shire is into seuen Hundreds, wherein are dispersed the number of 145. Parish Churches. There being interfluent in this Countie six Riuers, that haue seuen Bridges. In it also are two Forests and three Parkes: And for the Inhabitants intercourse for Trade and Traffique, they are furnished in this County with sixe Market Townes, whereof that which is accounted the chiefe, is *Pembroke*, the Shire Towne, and Denominator of the Countie, which is pleasantly seated on the Banke of a Creeke, where the water ebberth and floweth euen vpto the walls: which hauing three Gates in a long forme (and now decaying) doe inclose the Towne, which on the West end hath a Castle, that hath beene large and strong. And a Causey locked, which is the way to *Monton Priory*, now suppressed. Within the walls are two Parish Churches, and the Towne at this day gouerned by a Maior, assisted with Bayliffes and Burgesses: the height of the Pole being there 51. 47. and the Longitude 19. 40. Another Towne note-worthy in the West of this Shire, is ancient *St. Davids*, which is barren and vnfruitfull, standing open to all kinde of ill weather, and yet from thence came *St. Patrick* the *Irish* Apostle, whose parents were the *British* Priest *Calphurnius* and his wife *Concha*, that was Sister to *St. Martin*. This Citie, though ill stored with houses and Inhabitants, hath yet a faire Cathedrall Church, in the Chaire whereof is intombed *Edmund* Earle of *Richmond*, King *Henry* the Seuenths father, for whose sake King *Henry* the Eighth spared the pulling downe of this Church in the time of Suppression. The ancient Inhabitants of this County were the *Dimetrie*, but long after King *Henry* the First planted *Flemings* there. *Monton Priory* and *St. Dogmells* were the Religious Houses that I finde were erected in this Shire, and in the dissolution were suppressed; yet with sixteene strong Castles and two Block-houses at the mouth of *Milford* Hauen was it well fortified. The Aire being temperate and wholesome, and the Soile fat, fertile and full of Marle, yeelding plentie of Corne, Cattell, Fowle and Fish.

Cardigan-shire.

THis Countie of *Cardigan*, called by old *Latine* Writers *Geretica*, and in *British*, *Sire-Aber-Tiur*, is bordered vpon on the East by *Montgomery* and *Brecknock-shires*, on the West by the *Irish* Sea, on the South by *Towy* and *Tiny* is diuided from *Caermarden-shire*, and on the North by the Riuer *Dow*, from *Mersoneth-shire*. It containes from *Cardigan* Towne in the South, to the Riuer *Dow* on the North, 31. miles, and stretcheth her widest part from *Clarmen* head in the East, to *Aberystwyth* on the West, but fiftene; the whole content of the compasse being about 103. miles. It is diuided into five Hundreds, which are subdiuided into 64. Parishes: 26. Riuers and Riuerets, with nine Bridges, are pleasantly interspered in it. And for negotiating of businesse for the Inhabitants, foure Market Townes, whereof *Cardigan* the Shire Towne is the principall, which on the North side of the Riuer *Towy*, on a high banke is pleasantly seated, which *Gilbert de Clare*, to whom King *Henry* the First gaue this Countie, encompassed with a wall that hath three waies for passage into the Towne; and built there also vpon a Rocke, a faire large and strong Castle, which the bitter stormes of time haue now transformed into a monument of ruines: vnder which Castle is the Bridge, which is the onely passable way over the Riuer *Towy*. The eleuation of the Pole is here 52. 16. and the Longitude 19. 55. The ancient Inhabitants of this Countie, that *Ptolemie* makes mention of, were the *Dimetie*, who vnder the conduct of their King *Caractacus*, were most valiant opposers of the *Romans*, till *Iulius Frontinus* ouercame and subdued them. This small Shire, I finde was furnished with few Religious Houses, namely at *Cardigan* Istradfleet, *Llan-Badern-Vaur*, which sometime was a Bishops See, and yet these few could not escape the force of Fortune, and Time the deuourer of all things. The Aire is here open, sharp, and piercing, and yet withall wholesome. The Soile hilly and vncuen, except towards the Sea-side, where it is more plaine, hauing pleasant valleyes and rich pastures. And the chiefest Commodities of this Countie are Corne, Cattell, Fowle and Fish; and in some places are Mines of Lead.



Montgomery-shire.

THis County which we call *Montgomery-shire*, by the Britaines was called *Sire-Tresaldwin*, and on the East is inclosed with *Shropshire*, on the West with *Merioneth-shire*: *Radnor* and *Cardigan-shires* border on the South, and the North is bounded with the Countie of *Denbigh*. The measure of the length from *Hyffington* East to *Machenlets* West, is about 26. miles, and the broadest betweene the Riuer of *Dulas* South, and *Riader* North, much vpon 22. The diuision of it is into seuen Hundreds, wherein are in diuers places disperfed 47. Parish Churches: and with many sweet Riueres that have six Bridges for passage is this Countie accommodated, whereof *Seuerne*, the second of all the Land, hath the head rising and issuing from the high Hill *Plymlymon*, whence also descend from their heads, the Riueres of *Wye* and *Rydall*. The Inhabitants of this Countie haue for Commerce and Trafique six Market Townes, whereof the chieftest is the Shire Towne *Montgomery*, which vpon the side of an hill is pleasantly situated in a very healthfull Aire, neare to which vpon a higher mount is seated a faire and strong Castle, that is yet kept and maintained in very good repaire, hauing a most pleasant Plaine vnder it: It was built by *Roger de Montgomery*, Earle of *Shrewsbury*, and called by the *Latins* *Mons Gomericus*. The Pole is here eleuated 52. 43. and the Longitude 21. 17. The hardy *Ordonices* were the ancient Inhabitants that possessed this Countie, who were a warlike people, that valiantly a long time withstood the *Romane* Forces, and held out from the subiection of the *English*, till the reigne of King *Edward* the First; but since that time haue euer beene found most firme and faithfull to the Crowne. The Aire is here very delightfull and healthfull; The Soyle Hilly and vncuen, but plentifull of faire and fresh water Springs. The East part of this Shire being as fruitfull as any part of *England*, and the West breeding abundant store of Cattell; but especially of excellent Horses.



Merioneth-shire.

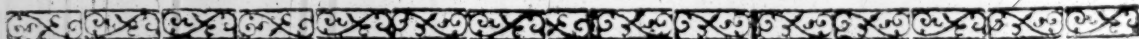
THe Latines call this Countie *Merninia*, which the Britaines termed *Syr-Verioneth*, and wee now call *Merioneth-shire*. Which boundeth thus: *Montgomery-shire* bordereth the East, and the *Irish Seas* doe wash upon the West. *Cardigan-shire* is diuided from it by the River *Dowy* on the South: and the North is limited by the Counties *Carnarwan* and *Denbigh*. It contains in length, from *Aber-Dowy* South-west, to *Llanfawr* North-East, about 33. miles, and in bredth from *Maynllwyd* South-east, to *Bethkelert* Bridge 22. It is diuided into six Hundreds, wherein are contained 37. Parish Churches, and 26. Rivers passable by seuen Bridges. And for Commerce and Traffique in this Countie, are but three Market Townes, viz. *Bala*, *Dolgell* and *Harlech*, which is accounted the principall, though it be much defectiue both of building or any other ornaments besitting a Shire Towne, for in a barren place it stands, but bleake and cold, where there is little plentie of any thing but of Fowle and Fish. Yet is there a strong and faire Castle, situate vpon a Mount encircled with a double Bulwarke, which is a sure defence against the entrance thiere of any forren inuaders. And though the Constable of this Castle by Patent is also Maior of the Towne, yet doth the want of repaire thereof threaten a sudden decay. The Pole is here eleuated to 52. 58. of Latitude, and the Longitude 20. 9. Neare *Bala* is a great Pond, called *Pimble-meare*, containing 160. Acres in quantitie, which neuer by any land-floods falling into it, is any whit increased, but by stormes of violent winds ouerfloweth and rageth in a wonderfull manner. The *Ordovices* were the ancient Inhabitants of this County, who very stoutly opposed the *Romanes*. And after they were subiugated to the *English*, (by the meanes of *Owen Glendour*) made many rebellious quarrels, to free themselves againe from the *English* yoake. Many Wolves in ancient times did abound in the Mountaines of this Countie, which by meanes of King *Edgar* were vterly destroyed. The Aire here may be healthfull to the Natiues, but it is so continually troubled with violent winds, as it is nothing pleasant. And the Soile so rough and mountainous, that though Corne can thriue there, yet for Grasse and feeding for sheepe, and other Cattel, it is no way defectiue. Herrings are caught also on those Coasts in abundance; and the whole Countie sufficiently storied with Fish and Fowle.



Carnarvon-shire and Anglesey.



He am I confined to a narrower limit than in the former, being to describe two Prouinces in this one page. Briefly therefore thus: The *Britanes* called this Countie *Cagr-arvon*; the Bounds whereof are *Denbigh-shire* on the East, *Merioneth* on the South, the *Irish Seas* on the West and North. The length from South to North contains 40 Miles, the breadth 20, and the whole compasse 110. There are in it 68 Parishes, one Bishopricke, 17. Ri- uers, with 6 large Bridges. And for Commerce and Traffique, 5 Market Townes, whereof the chiefeſt is the Shire- Towne *Carnarvon*, situate very pleasantly on the Sea side, and enclosed with a Wall, hauing beene both beautified and fortified also with a strong faire Castle, which now euen droopeth for age, and the violent force of the Sea, wherewith it is continually vndermined and battered: The Constable of which Castle (by Patent) is ouer Maior; who with an Alderman, and two Bayliffes, doe gouerne this Towne; where King *Edward 2.* was borne, and where the Pole is eleuated 53. 16. and the longitude 39. 57. The Bishops Sea *Bangor*; where *Hugh Earle of Chester* built a Castle, is another Towne of note in this Countie, where the *Ordnices* were the ancient Inhabitants, who by reason of the mountaines, (wherewith this Shire aboundeth) did long and stoutly withstand the *Romanes*, amongst which *Snoder Hill* is both the greatest and highest; but for more particulars of it, and other places of note in this Shire, I must referre you to Mr. *Camden*, and Mr. *Speed*, who will fully resolue you. The Aire here is sharp and cold; the Soile barren and hilly, and yet yeelds Milke, Butter, Cheese, and Hony, in a plentifull manner.



Anglesey.



The *Romanes* named this Mona, which we call *Anglesey Island*, being diuided from *Britaine* by the Riuer *Menay*, and the rest round bounded by the Sea: it contains 20. miles in length, and 17. in breadth, the whole compasse being about 70. miles. Into six Hundreds it is diuided, and these are subdiuided into seuentie foure Parishes. It hath eight Ri- uers, and but two Market Townes for Trade and Traffique, the chiefe whereof is *Beau-Marish*, buik by King *Edward* the first, who first brought the whole Island vnder the *English* yoke, and fortified it with a strong Castle; the faire situation whereof, being in a Moorish place, gaue the name that it hath vnto it: which is now gouerned by a Maior annually elected, who is assisted with two Bayliffes, and a Towne Clerke. The *Ordnices* also were the old Inhabitants of this Island, who were subiugated to the *Romanes* by *Julius Agricola*. I reade but of one Religious Houſe in this Prou- ince, namely *Llan-vais*, which though it be now quite rased, is yet memorable for the bodies of King *Johns* daughter, the *Danish* Kings sonne, the Lord *Clifford*, and diuers other eminent persons there interred. The Aire is piercing, and healthfull; and though the Soile seeme drie and barren, yet is it plentifully stored with wheat, and produceth Corne and Cautell, wherewith it not only fur- nisheth it selfe, but is a good help to the neighbour Prouinces.

Denbigh-shire.



His Countie, in *British* called *Sire Denbigh*, is bounded on the East with *Ches-shire* and *Shrop-shire*, on the West with *Caernarvon* and *Merioneth-shires*: *Montgomery-shire* encloseth the South; the Sea and *Flynt-shire* the North. It stretcheth in length from East to West one and thirty, and in bredth from South to North about seuen teene; the whole compasse containing much vpon an hundred and foureteene miles. Into twelue Hundreds is this Countie distinguished, and they containe in them seuen and fittie Parish Churches; foure and twentie Rivers, passable by lix Bridges. And for Traffique and Trade amongst the countrey Inhabitants; three Market Townes, whereof the Principall is the Shire Towne *Denbigh*, which *Henry Lacy Earle of Lincoln* fortified with a wall, and a strong Castle: And yet is it famous for the fairest place in all *North-Wales*. The Government whereof is committed to two Aldermen, and two Bayliffes, which are every yeare chosen out of fve and twenty Burgeses, who with a Recorder and a Towne Clerke are their Assistants. The eleuation of the Pole being there 53. 18. and the Longitude 20. 51. The *Ordouices* were the ancient Inhabitants of this Countie, a strong and warlike people, who of all others continued the longest free, from the *Romane* or *Englisch* subiection; but first by *Iulius Agricola* to the one, and then by King *Edward the First* to the other, were subdued and conquered. The Vale of *Clwyd* being both pleasant and fruitfull, passeth the space of seenteene miles long, and about fve miles broad, thorow the heart of this Shire, being walled about with high Hills, where on the top of the highest, called *Moullently*, was in former times entrenched a strong Fort, hauing a cleare Spring of faire water. And in *Llan-fanan* Parith, in this County, are foure and twentie seats cut in a circle out of a Rocke, which the Inhabitants doe call King *Arthurs Round Table*. The Aire is here (though sharpe and bleake) healthfull, and the Soile in the middle most fruitfull: though the East and West sides are but barren and mountainous, yet yeelds it good store of Sheepe, Goats, and Near; besides plenty of Corne, and other necessary Commodities.



Flint-shire.



Flint-shire is in forme long and narrow. being bounded on the East side with *Cheeshire*, from which it is seuered by the Riuer *Dee*, on the West with *Clwyd* is diuided from *Denbigh*; the South is bordered vpon by *Shrop-shire*, and the North is limited with the waues of the Sea. The length containes in all not about 26 Miles, and in the broadest part scarce 8. Into 5 Hundreds is it diuided, wherein are disperfed 28 Parish Churches, and a Bishopricke. With many small Riuers is it well watered, but only *Clwyd* and *Dee* are two of the greatest note. And for Commerce and Traffique, haue the Inhabitants of this County but only one Market Towne, namely *Flint* the Shire Towne, where *Henry* the second laid the foundation, and *Edward* the first built a faire strong Castle, at which King *Richard* the second was by *Henry* Earle of *Northumberland* circumuented, and surprised; and by *Henry* of *Lancaster* Duke of *Hereford* induced to resigne his Crowne & Royall Dignity: which when he had done, he was conueyed to the Tower of *London*, as a prisoner there deposed, and afterwards at *Pomfret* lost his life. The eleuation of the Pole at this place is 53.19. and the Longitude 21. 8. The stout and sturdy *Ordovices*, who so long and valiantly withstood the *Romans*, were the ancient Inhabitants of this County, which hath beene fortified formerly with 7. faire Castles, which with their Hills, was a sure and strong defence against their enemies. At a little Towne named *Halyswell* in this Shire, is that famous fountaine, called commonly *St Winefrids Well*, of a faire Virgin of that name, who by a Lord of that Country was in that place both by force rauished, and afterwards beheaded; about which Well is Moss growing, of a most odoriferous and fragrant smell: and ouer the said Fountaine is built a faire freestone Chapell, in the windowes whereof is the picture of the iniured Virgin, whereto poore Pilgrimes were vsed in abundance to make their repaire. And at *Kilken* in this County is another little spring, that at certaine times doth both ebbe and flow like the Sea. Diuers Religious houses haue beene seated in this Shire, which are now subuerted and turned to ruines; amongst which that at *St. Asaphs* the Bishops See, is memorable, for hauing 663 persons in the brotherhood: And neare to that Monastery which was at *Basingwarke*, began King *Offas* Ditch, which crosse cutteth this County: where the Aire is pleasant, temperate and wholesome, and the Soile fruitfull, yeelding many commodities, as Corne, Grasse, Cattell, Milke, Butter, Cheefe, and Honey, whereof they make *Metheglin*: besides which is there plenteous store of Riuer Fish; and in some places good Millstones and Grindstones are wrought out of the Rocke.

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